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EXTRACTS

FROM

THE DIARY

OF

THE REV. PETER WALKDEN,

NONCONFORMIST MINISTER,

FOR

THE YEARS 1725, 1729, AND 1730;

WITH NOTES

BY

WILLIAM DOBSON,

AUTHOR OF "RAMBLES BY THE RIBBLE,"
"HISTORY OF THE PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION
OF PRESTON," ETC.

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INTRODUCTION.

SOME time ago, when spending a few days with a friend in the Forest of Bowland, I was shown two small volumes of manuscript, portions of the diary of a Nonconformist minister formerly officiating in that district. On glancing at them, I saw that many of the entries afforded interesting and graphic illustrations of social life in the early part of the last century. Feeling desirous of a fuller perusal of them, I was granted the loan of the books, and their owner, T. D. JACKSON, Esq., surgeon, of Slaidburn, subsequently gave me permission to publish such extracts as I considered would be acceptable to the public. I accordingly printed portions of the diary in the *Preston Chronicle*, and I now, in compliance with frequent suggestions, publish them in a more permanent form. In submitting the work to the public, I do so from a belief that an account of the life and labours of a pious country preacher, as written by himself, is not without value as a contribution to the history of social life in England in the past.

The details showing the mode of life of the Nonconformist minister may, no doubt, be accepted, as indicating the style in which also many of the country clergymen of the Church of England, more especially in the ill-endowed districts of the north, and the yeomanry of Lancashire and Yorkshire, then lived. They tilled, mainly with their own hands, a small extent of land, lived on simple fare, and often carried on, with their neighbours, a system of barter as respects both labour and the produce of the soil. Rye and oaten bread formed a large portion of their food; wheaten loaves appear never to have been used, by the author of this diary, or his family, for domestic purposes, as whenever bread was required for the Lord's Supper, a "manchet" was fetched, or sent for, from Preston. The spinning wheel and the handloom were then a part of the household furniture of the middle classes in the agricultural districts, and members of the family filled up their time by working them—unmarried members of the family being then actually, what they are still styled legally, "spinsters." Blackburn, which early obtained eminence in the cotton manufacture, for its cheques or plaids were then noted among the productions of Lancashire looms, appears to have been the town with which the "manufacturing" arrangements of the diarist's family were connected; from the neighbourhood of Darwen, usually at

Eccleshill, they obtained their coals, and with Preston they traded in most other respects, and it was their principal market town. But whether it was with Preston, Blackburn, or Darwen that they had transactions, the journeys were performed on horseback, often riding "pillion," that is, the wife riding behind the husband, on a cushion attached to his saddle, a mode of travelling customary with farmers and their wives even within the last half century. At the time the diarist wrote, the roads, even well-frequented highways, were almost impassable for wheeled carriages. As a sample of the condition the highways were in, Arthur Young, in "A Six Months' Tour through the North of England," many years after this diary was written, speaking of the road between Preston and Wigan, then the great highway between the north of England and London, says:—"I know not in the whole range of language terms sufficiently expressive to describe this infernal road. Let me most seriously caution all travellers who may accidentally propose to travel this terrible country, to avoid it as they would the devil; for a thousand to one they break their necks or their limbs by overthrows or breakings-down. They will here meet with ruts which I actually measured *four feet deep*, and floating with mud only from a wet summer. What, therefore, must it be after a winter? The only mending it receives is tumbling in some loose stones, which serve no other purpose than jolting a carriage in the most intolerable manner. These are not merely opinions, but facts; for I actually passed *three carts broken down* in those eighteen miles of execrable memory." Yet this road was no worse than many others at that time. Often "there was only a narrow causeway fit for pack-horses, flanked with clay sloughs on either side."* Coaches were kept by a few of the wealthy, who were jolted along in them at scarcely the speed of a good pedestrian; but for long after the date of the entries in this book there was no vehicular accommodation for casual travellers; strings of pack-horses travelled the country on the great highways, and bore the merchandise of one town to another.

The aspect of the country was then very different from what it is at present. Large tracts of land were unenclosed; much of Lancashire and Yorkshire was moor and morass, and in winter the low lands were great lakes. Enclosed farms were undrained; the health of the population was in consequence impaired, and agues, and other diseases now unknown in England, were of frequent occurrence.

* Smiles's Lives of the Engineers, vol. i., p. 204.

In the detached publication of the diary, much amusement has been excited among its readers through the frequent mention, by the diarist, of his taking "a pot of ale," and sometimes a thoughtless conclusion has been drawn by persons, judging from modern habits, that the writer was given to inebriation, then a common vice among the yeomanry and the middle and lower classes of England. There does not seem to be any warrant for such an opinion. It does not appear from any entry in the diary that tea and coffee, those now cheap and agreeable beverages, to be met with in every house, were ever used in the minister's household; indeed, within the time comprised in this volume they were expensive luxuries beyond the means of persons in the diarist's position.* Ale was then, even more than now, the common beverage of all classes. When, therefore, the writer, as in his quaint simplicity he records, had a "penny pot of ale" at his calling places, he partook of what was not only the customary beverage of travellers, but what, at an earlier period, and even at that time, composed a portion of almost every meal.

It is not within my province to enter on anything like a history of Nonconformity. When freedom of religious thought accomplished the Reformation, it was scarcely to be expected that the speculations incident to the mighty struggles, both antecedent and subsequent to that important event, would cease. There was, thenceforward, an element of Protestant Nonconformity in this country. From the days of Henry the Eighth to the days of Charles the Second, the varieties of doctrine and discipline among Christians increased in number. But there were not several sects in existence, as there are now. The Presbyterians and the Independents, who were possessed of so much power in the times of the Stuarts, exercised their ministry inside the Church of England. The former of them, indeed, were in favour of a moderate episcopacy, and were, as respects religious toleration, far in advance of the latter. But, though the Presbyterian and Independent clergy preached in support of their peculiar opinions with great effect in all parts of England, they were not Nonconformists in our sense of the word. They maintained certain opinions and indulged in certain speculations, but they did not scruple to remain in communion with the State Church. Whatever speculations were indulged

* In Mrs. Delaney's Correspondence, of the year 1728, she says, "The man at the Poultry has tea of all prices—Bohea from thirteen to twenty shillings, and green from twelve to thirty." Bohea is now, including duty, from 1s. 8d. to 2s. a pound, and green from 2s. upwards. Coffee would be proportionately dear.

in, both in the press and the pulpit, little progress was made in forming congregations of worshippers, separate from the Established Church, until the famous act of Charles the Second's reign (A.D. 1662), which ejected from 1,900 to 2,000 ministers from their benefices for refusing to make a declaration of conformity to the established ecclesiastical system. Most of these divines took from the church some sympathising hearers; by many of them Independent or Presbyterian congregations were formed, and though many acts of parliament were passed imposing fines and imprisonment for ministering or worshipping at these "conventicles," they more or less flourished, as opinions often do flourish under persecution. The Revolution of 1688 was followed by the passing of the Toleration Act, which legalised, under certain restrictions, Nonconformist meeting houses, but it was long afterwards before Protestant Dissenters were recognised as loyal subjects and admitted to the full rights of citizenship.

The Rev. Peter Walkden, the writer of this diary, was minister of two Dissenting places of worship, the one at Newton-in-Bowland, and the other at Hesketh Lane, near Chipping, both erected after the passing of the Toleration Act. He ministered at these chapels on alternate Sundays and on other occasions, such as "preparation days" and special days of prayer and thanksgiving. Both buildings are humble erections, and externally, at least, are still the same as when Mr. Walkden ministered therein; only one, that at Newton, is still regularly used as a place of worship; in the other there are only occasional services.

The Newton Chapel stands in the village by the wayside on the west of the road to Slaidburn. It bears, in front, the date of its erection, 1696, and the letters "R. L.," the initials of Richard Lee, of Birket, in the Forest of Bowland, who built the chapel, and endowed it with a little landed property, near Grassington, in Craven, now producing £12 a year, the first minister of the chapel being the Rev. John Jollie, nephew of the Rev. Thomas Jollie, the ejected minister of Altham.

The chapel at Hesketh Lane stands in a small enclosure in Hesketh Lane, about a mile from the village of Chipping. It was built in the year 1705. On a stone over the doorway is the date of the erection, in Roman numerals, and there was the following inscription, but it is now almost illegible:—"Luke, 7, 5—For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue." One Thomas Parkinson, in 1715, endowed it with a small property, Broomcroft, which yet belongs to the chapel.

A James Bolton also made a bequest to it, which has been lost. There is a tradition in the neighbourhood that there was an earlier Nonconformist chapel in the neighbourhood, or at least a barn used-as such, and a field, not far off, pointed out as its site, is still called "Chapel field." The earliest worshippers were, it is said, members of the "Church" of Independents at Wymondhouses, near Clitheroe, founded by the Rev. Thomas Jollie, on his ejectment from Altham. Mr. Joseph Gillibrand, one of the first trustees of the chapel, was, I believe, its first minister. When Mr. Walkden succeeded to the ministry I cannot say, but he was pastor in the year 1722, and continued so probably until his death, which took place in the year 1769, at the age of 85.* The diarist's wife was interred in Hesketh Lane chapel, and over her grave is an inscription, recording her death on the 5th of January, 1744. On Mr. Walkden's death, he was succeeded in the ministry by the Rev. Henry Walkden, his son, who preached also at the little chapel, at Walker Fold, in the hamlet of Chaigley, below Kemple End, the east end of Longridge Fell. The chapel at Hesketh Lane has not been used, except occasionally, as a place of worship, for many years. In the year 1820, a preaching room for Independents was established in the village of Chipping, which, in 1839, was superseded by "Providence chapel," erected on land, given for the purpose, by the late Mr. W. Bond. That place of worship is, however, now closed.

When this diary was written, George the Second was King of England; personally, he was not a popular prince, and, although the Hanoverian succession was then the safeguard of our liberties, there was a large and influential section of the population intriguing for the return of the Stuarts. But whatever the Jacobites of Lancashire might have been doing in the interval between the rout of the Pretender's army, in the streets of Preston, and the destruction of his son's hopes at Culloden, we have no mention of them in Mr. Walkden's diary. Living in a thinly populated district, away from the centres of intrigue and excitement, he appears to have been untroubled with what was going on in the world of politics. He evidently found sufficient occupation in the discharge of his pastoral duties, in attending to the work of his farm, and in visiting, counselling, and bargaining with his neighbours away from the scenes of the plotters of dynastic changes.

* The Rev. H. Fogg, of Ormskirk, great grandson of the Rev. Peter Walkden, has a Bible, in which his grandfather, the Rev. Peter Walkden Fogg, made the entry, "My father-in-law, the Rev. Peter Walkden, died November 5th, 1769, aged 85."

The two volumes of Mr. Walkden's manuscript were found a few years ago, amid a lot of rubbish, in a cottage at Slaidburn. Some others had been burned, but these were rescued by their present owner. The books are of small size, [a foolscap 8vo.] about 5½ inches by 3½ inches. The entries are written in a small crabbed hand, sometimes difficult to decipher, and they detail with great minuteness, sometimes approaching almost to tediousness, the way in which every day was spent. Each day's entry begins with an allusion to his rising in good health, washing, praying, &c., and closes with a commendation of his all to God; on every occasion that he preaches or engages in any religious exercises he states what chapters of the Scriptures he read, and the nature of the discourses he delivered; but these allusions I have generally omitted, as possessing too much sameness. My aim has been mainly to give such passages as throw light on the social history of the period.

At the time the diarist wrote, the orthography of the English language was not settled, and Mr. Walkden, like other writers of that day, is somewhat arbitrary; sometimes, indeed, in the same page, he spells a word two or three different ways. I have, as a rule, modernised the orthography, as the retention of the original mode of spelling would have answered no useful purpose. I have added many notes to illustrate customs now obsolete, to give the meaning of words, then current, but no longer used in ordinary speech, and in other ways to render the work, what I hope it will be, acceptable as an illustration of our social history.

W. D.

August, 1866.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF A NONCONFORMIST MINISTER.

A DIARY FOR THE FORMER* PART OF THE YEAR 1725,

Wherein is contained a summary of my daily transactions, or a true account where, in what, and how I spent my time daily; together with what's said or done remarkable each day either by myself or other with whom I converse. Done to be a mirror to view my life and actions in, that I may know how I walk, and how to humble my soul before God, and when to rejoice in the goodness of my God. Begun January the 1st, Anno Domini 1725.†

January the 1st, 1725, being Friday.‡ . . This

* The beginning or earlier part.

† At this time the legal year began on the 25th of March. The style was not altered until the year 1752, which year began on the 1st January, and the 3rd of September was reckoned as the 14th. This change was made under the authority of an act of parliament, passed in 1751. Mr. Walkden appears to have been in advance of the country generally in his adoption of the new style, as respects the year. In some memoranda of his at the end of his diary he, however, adopted the customary mode of marking the year during the months of January and February, and up to the 24th of March; as, for instance, recording an incident in January, in the year we should now call 1728, he would mark it 172⅞. The new style was adopted in the greater part of Italy and many other parts of the continent, in 1582; some others followed at short intervals; and, in 1700, further adhesions to the new system took place. England, as we have seen, only assented to the new system in 1751; possibly her delay in accepting it was influenced by the reformer of the calendar being a pope (Gregory the Thirteenth). Russia and Greece still adhere to the old style in their calendar.

‡ To every entry the diarist gives the day of the week, as well as of the month, but the former we shall omit, except in the case of Sunday,—"the Lord's day"—as he invariably styled it, where it explains his proceedings.

morning, being in health, I rose, and prayed, and praised God, washed, and put on my linen, and read the 2nd chapter of Eccles., and prayed in my family. So got ready for the chapel, and about the usual time was down, and though few were come yet, I began exercise with prayer ; then preached from Psalm the 30th, the title of the psalm ;* so prayed, and we sung a verse or two, and I dismissed the people. So came up Hesketh-lane † to Walmsley's‡ where, meeting with George Boardman, he gave me 3s. of my Martinmas quarterage, which made what he had given me before 10s. 6d. ; he collecting for me, and being a poor man, and giving me the moneys which he did, I invited him into Walmsley's, and spent my 8d. on him, my love, son Thomas, and myself. So I came direct home, and my love did was needful in the house. At night she and I went to Richard Parkinson's, and then having set || awhile after in the family, I read a portion of Scripture, and we sung part of a psalm, and I prayed in the family. So set on till after ten o'clock. Then my love and I came direct home. I prayed in my family, and I retired into my lodging-room, and commended my all to God, and lay down beside my love,§ and slept well. Blessed be God.

Jan. 3rd, being Lord's Day.—This morning, being in health, I rose, and prayed, and praised God ; so got ready for Newton, and prayed in my family. So got my mare, and went direct to Newton, and put in my mare at the chapel.** . . So I went into the chapel, and prayed ; then read the 57th Psalm, and the 13th of Romans, and we sung 6 verses of the 145th Psalm, and I prayed ; then preached

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* The title of the psalm is "A Psalm and Song at the dedication of the house of David."

† Hesketh-lane is the lane leading from Inglewhite to Thornley and Clitheroe. In travelling from Preston and Longridge to Chipping, persons pass about fifty yards along Hesketh-lane, turning off to Chipping about thirty yards before coming to the old chapel where the diarist ministered.

‡ The inn, in Hesketh-lane, a few yards from the chapel.

|| Mr. Walkden often uses the term "set" for "sat." It appears to be an old English word, and is retained in Matthew v. 1., "and when he was *set* his disciples came to him."

§ By this endearing term he always alludes to his wife.

** At the stable attached to the chapel.

from Phil. 3, 9, and proceeded to application ; then ceased, prayed, and we sung 2 verses of a psalm, and I dismissed the people ; so in a little time I got my mare, and came to Raddam Laund,* and dined there. So came home, and was in my house till the family had supped ; then caused the 11th of St. John to be read, and we sung part of a psalm, and I prayed in my family. So retired into my lodging-room, commended my all to God, and lay down beside my love, and slept well. Blessed be God.

Jan. 4th.— . . Spent the day wholly at home. About noon, Edward Winder called in our house, and having asked how we all did, he asked if we had heard that William Jenkinson was dead. We said nay, but he said so. He went yesterday with a letter to the High House, and fell ill there, and fell down dead off one of Wharton's horses before he got home to his lodgings. I was surprised at the news, but said little, however credited the report, and Edward went his way.

Jan. 5.— . . I in readiness for going to the private day of prayer at the Cold Coats.† . . She [the diarist's wife] was so full of house business, that at the time it was over it was full time to go to the Cold Coats, so that prayer was omitted this morning. About one a'clock we went up to Robert Parkinson's, and found some of our friends there, and we were not long ere we opened the nature and end of the exercise ; then sung a few verses of a psalm ; so I prayed for a blessing, and the exercise was carried on by Robert Parkinson, Edmund Parkinson, John Parker, John Corner, and I concluded. So we sung part of a psalm, and I dismissed the people. So we dined, and in a little time came home.

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* Radholme Laund, in the Forest of Bowland, is the property of Lieut.-Colonel Towneley, and is now tenanted by Mr. Matthew Brown. Mr. Walkden often called at Radholme Laund, and he records many a kind and hospitable reception there. In that respect, Radholme Laund, in the hands of its present occupier, keeps up its old character for hospitality. The situation is a most delightful one, and commands views of most beautiful scenery, along the valley of the Hodder in one direction, and in another the Fylde to the Irish Sea. A laund is a cultivated tract within a chase or forest.

† A farm about a mile to the west of the village of Chipping.

Jan. 6th.— . . Got ready to go to William Jenkinson's burial, and prayed in my family. So got my mare, and went towards the burying-house, and in my way got an old shoe of my own set on my mare by John Cottom, and paid him for setting it on. . . Robert Rathmell gave me an account of William Parkinson's verbal will,* attested and revealed by John Wilkinson, which is as follows, viz. : "To his kinsman at York he bequeathed one table and one ark,† with one large Bible ; to Mr. Peter Walkden ‡ ten shillings to preach his funeral sermon. All that remained over the charges of his burial and paying his just debts he gave to his kinswoman, Jane Rathmell." This being over, I stayed till the corpse was carried out to the bier, and till it was carried out of the fold. ‖ Then the land being fallen to Robert Parker de§ Raddam Laund, by William's death, I stayed and bare witness that John Parker, of the Lees, in the name of his father, put the family that lives in the house all out, shut the door upon them, and thereby said that he took possession of the estate and house ; so I came to [my] mare, and attended the corpse on the Hesketh-lane. Before I came to the Arbour** I came up to Robert Ratcliff, and asked him if he would set the higher grounds at his house in Chipping. "Yes," said he. "Are you willing that I be your tenant ?" said I. He said "Yes." So we concluded, after the burial, to meet and treat about it, and parted. At Hesketh-lane, I left the burial, and came home with my mare, and went on foot to Chipping. When I came there the corpse was just

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* A nuncupative will, the disposition of property by word of mouth, was a legal mode of making bequests, at one time. It was abolished by act of parliament in 1837.

† Ark :—A chest. In the North of England, the large chests in farm houses used for keeping meat or flour in are so called. They are usually made of oak, and are sometimes elaborately carved. From the name *Arkwright*, it would seem that the construction of them formerly constituted a separate trade.—*Halliwell's Archaic Dictionary.*

‡ The Rev. Peter Walkden, the writer of this diary.

‖ The enclosure in front of the house.

§ The Norman word "de" for "of" long remained in use to signify residence, or ownership of property, and is still retained in many surnames and titles.

** A farm in Thornley.

at hand, but no curate to read.* However the clerk performed the office, and buried William Jenkinson. After the burial, the arvell † being at Ann Webster's, I went thither, and dined as the rest did. Dinner being over, I took the Highest field and Little Meadow of Robert Ratcliff, at £3 11s. the year, . . only he is to return me 6d. back out of the said sum. So we parted, and I came direct home.

Jan. 7.— . . Got my mare, and went direct to Garstang, and Mr. Aray‡ being in town called me, and caused me to put in my mare at the King's Head. We went into the house, and a boy was with Mr. Aray, who had brought me half a windle of rye.‖ I paid the boy 3s. 6d., and sat with Mr. Aray until I had spent my sixpence.§ William Charnoch having some moneys demanded of him by Mr. Mason, which he said he owed him not, having ne'er received of Mr. Mason such goods as he demanded pay for, we went with him to Mr.

* At that day there was considerable laxity in the performance of their duties by the clergy of the Church of England. From such a state of things there was necessarily a reaction, and this was shown in the great revival under Wesley and Whitefield; at a somewhat later period.

† The funeral dinner.

‡ Dissenting minister at Forton Chapel. The Rev. Elienezer Aray was admitted a student of Mr. Frankland's academy, Rathmell, Feb. 21, 1698. He became minister of Forton Chapel, near Lancaster, which was built for him, in 1707, on the occasion of his being turned out of the Episcopal Chapel, Shireshead, Wyresdale. He died April 29, 1729, and was buried at Forton Chapel, but there is no memorial of him over his grave. He buried there a son Amos, who died in the 10th year of his age, Oct. 15, 1721, over whom there is a gravestone. *Rev. R. Slate's M.S.*—It appears somewhat strange that Mr. Aray, who was educated for the nonconformist ministry, (for Mr. Frankland was one of the "two thousand" ejected in 1662, and he afterwards kept an academy for Nonconformists at Rathmell,) should have officiated at an episcopal chapel. Shireshead, which is in the parish of Cockerham, was never a well-endowed living; and perhaps like Longridge, at an earlier period, "being an obscure place, with a small salary, there was no great striving after it." The ducal family of Hamilton had possessions in that neighbourhood, and their patronage may have obtained his ministrations at Shireshead for a time, in the absence of a conforming clergyman.

‖ Rye was then much used for making bread of, among the agricultural and labouring classes.

§ The allusion to "my sixpence" and a previous one to "my eightpence" would imply that he had taken these respective sums for his day's expenses.

Mason to enquire into the matter and rectify the mistake ; but Mason stands in it that such goods were delivered to William Charnoch's wife by his own hands ; so that we did him no service ; so I and Mr. Aray and Richard Caiton came to my mare, had a pint of ale, and Mr. Aray rid home, and I and Richard Caiton followed on foot. [This night he stayed at Mr. Aray's.]

Jan. 8th.—Was at Mr. Aray's till dinner was over ; then, at Mr. Aray's desire, I took my mare, and went with him to Winmarleigh to see Mary Stersacre, who was indisposed. . . Mr. Aray read the 7th of Eccles., and prayed. We set not long after ere we came thence, and at Four Lane Ends, in the lower road, we parted, having appointed to exchange on Sabbath Day. We wished each good success. I came by the Old Hollins,* and over Wyre, through Scorton, to Brother Miller's direct. [He stayed at Mr. Miller's this night, and until the following Monday.]

Jan. 9th.—Brother Miller having told me in Garstang how Oswald Crossgill wanted pay for the goods bought at his sale some time since, I determined to pay him, and remove the goods ; but not having so much money in my pocket as would do it, I was forced to borrow ; and having yesterday asked Mr. Aray the lend† of 8s. 6d. for a month, but succeeded not, ‡ I purposed to try Nicholas Story ; so got my mare, and went to Nicholas Story's, and asked him the lend of it. Nicholas very kindly consented to lend me 8s. till Candlemas, which I accepted, and came back to Brother Miller's, and got John Macnoe and a horse and cart to follow me to Oswald's . . and paid him all I owed, and crossed all out [of the sale bill] that concerned me. . . We loaded the goods, and brought them to Brother Miller's, and set a long *settle* ‖ in the barn, but the chair and barrel we brought into the house.

* A public-house in the township of Cabus ; although the modern sign is the ducal arms of Hamilton, it is yet popularly known as the Old Hollins.

† Loan.

‡ What a forcible illustration of the straitened means of two hard-working ministers of the gospel !

‖ A Lancashire and Yorkshire term for a sofa, from the Anglo-Saxon word *setel*, a seat. The word occurs in the 43rd and 45th chapters of Exekiel.

Jan. 10th, being Lord's Day.— . . Rode as far as beyond Clevely mill, but being cold, I left my mare at Thomas Fox's, and walked thence to Forton Chapel. [After service, which is described with the customary minuteness.] Called at the New Hollins, and being in a cold, and the day cold, I resolved to get a gill of hot ale; so told Brother Miller. He and John Gardner went in with me, and we got one pint hot among us, and paid pence a piece, and came away. Thomas Fox came and invited me to dine with him. I gave him thanks, but excused myself, and got my mare, and came direct to Brother Miller's.

Jan. 11th.— . . Got ready for coming home . . then got my mare and my rye, and came towards home. At Oakenclough,* I called at Robert Raby's, where I found Mr. Ary. I did alight, and went in, but stayed little . . and came direct home, and found all well through mercy.

Jan. 13th.— . . Spent the day wholly at home, and most in my closet. . . Slept well till about midnight, when I rose, and set son John out towards the coalpit.

Jan. 14th.—My love and I went to George Boardman's, and paid Alice Boardman all we owed her.

Jan. 17th, Lord's Day.— . . Went direct to Newton . . and baptised John King, of Newton, a son, calling his name Richard. . . Mary, relict of Richard Winder, told me that the legacy her late husband left to me, as minister of Newton, was due, and she had it for me, if I pleased to receive it.† I, wanting money, refused it not, but accepted it.

Jan. 19th.— . . Wanting a few oats for horse provender, I . . asked Richard Pye to give me a few, which he did, near a windle. I dined there, and sat awhile after; then got my mare, and came to the Cock Hill,‡ and alight; but hearing that there was a sale of beasts at Edward Abram's, I stayed

* A hamlet, in the township and forest of Bleasdale.

† This enquiry no doubt referred to whether he would receive it on that day, being Sunday. It would appear Mr. Walker had not such strong sabbatarian prejudices as to refuse to receive money on a Sunday.

‡ A farm to the south of Parlick, and about two miles westward of the village of Chipping.

little, but came on to the Cold Coats, and left my oats and mare there, and run over to Edward Abram's, but the sale was over.

Jan. 23rd.—Got ready for going to Preston . . so set forwards towards Preston, and got there a little before noon, and warmed and refreshed ourselves; and then went to Mr. Knock's,* and bought a gallon of claret † wine, and paid him 5s. 8d.; so went to another shop, and bought a caddow,‡ at 10s. 6d.; and we wared || 9 pence in [at] a standing; and 8d. of an old whip mending; 2d. of 2 loaves; and 1s. 1d. of newspapers;§ and 9¾d. of single sacking; and spent 1s. 6d. of dinner, ale, and ostler's fee. So got our mare, and came direct to James Walmsley's, in Hesketh-lane, where we left two bottles of wine and two loaves, and had one penny in ale.

Jan. 24th, Lord's Day.— . . administered the Lord's Supper . . came to Walmsley's, and spent twopence and no more on my love and Alice Martin, and paid Thomas Walmsley his quarterage.

Jan. 25th.— . . got my mare, and went direct to Richard Heys, and delivered in a letter to London, and got some refreshment. . . I came on to Mr. Haighton's door, and asked old Mr. Haighton if he had any ash timber to sell me. He said "Yes." I got some beer, and went to the woods . . and bought two ash trees for 8s. 6d.

Jan. 26th.—Being under promise to go to Cock Hill to-day, I and my love got ready, and about noon set forward . . and put in our mare there,

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* Mr. Nock, a wine merchant, in Preston, whose son (we believe) was the builder of the house in Marsh-lane, called Nock's Folly, it being considered by the inhabitants a piece of "folly" to build a house so far out of the town, as it then was. The old works for supplying the town with water was also called "the Folly." Nock's Folly is blunderingly called "Knox Folly" on the map of the town published by the Corporation. In the accounts of the churchwardens of the parish of Preston are frequent payments to Mr. Nock for wine.

† Claret was then the wine ordinarily drunk.

‡ A caddy, or chest; the word remains in use in the term "tea caddy."

|| Wore or spent.

§ What newspaper this would be we cannot say; none was printed in Preston at that time.

but found nobody in Edmund Parkinson's, they being all gone to widow Helm's sale. . . During my stay there, I wared my money; so came to the Cock Hill, and dined. We went to sale again to see how beasts sold, but they had none to my mind; so I bid nothing at all, but came to my mare, and shortly got my love behind me,* and came direct home.

Jan. 27th.—It being our private day,† my love and I got ready for it, and since Ralph Holden had yesterday informed us that Robert Corner had a calving cow to sell that would do well for us we proposed, after prayers, to go see her. So took our mare, and went to chapel [he details the services.] Prayers being over, and the people dismissed, I told the people present that John Parkinson was willing to let me the Daub Hall ‡ for his term, viz., a 11 years,‖ but would have them present at the bargain; but I was for Robert Corner's to-night, therefore would leave them to agree with John for me, and what they did should please me. . . I and my love went to Robert Corner, saw the cow, and found nothing in her nor of her but what pleased us . . because I had not all the cow price in hand, I asked Robert what day he could spare me if bought her. He told me none, for the money he must pay at Candlemas, and he could be without it no longer. I asked him the price of her, and he told me £3 10s. I knew I could not pay him at his time; so said no more, but got my mare, and came to Nicholas Holden's and Elliz Dobson's, and told them my case; they could not help me; so I came home, and approving of the cow, I thought to use means to procure a friend to assist me.

Jan. 28th.—Spent the forenoon at home, besides Thomas Walmsley, who was thacking § for me, and the after [noon] in seeking a friend to assist me with moneys to pay for the cow I held in view.

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* They rode pillion, then a common mode of travelling.

† Day of private devotion.

‡ A farm about half a mile to the south-west of the village of Chipping. The diarist lived at Dawb Hall, for a time. See page 10 and page 22.

‖ See note ‖ page 22. § Thatching.

Jan. 29th.—So my love and I got our mare, and went direct to Robert Corner's, and bought the cow of him at £3 7s. I paid him £2, and promised to bring the rest on Wednesday next at the longest. We called at Nicholas Holden's, and bought half a stone of wool.

Jan. 30th.—Spent the day wholly at home, and had no business with any save John Parkinson, of whom I took the house I now live in, £1 4s. the year, for the term of eleven years, and to have one-half of the fruit of the new planted orchard o' th' back o' th' house; also a garden lying at the Three Lane Ends,* above Chipping . . at 1s. the year.

Jan. 31st, Lord's Day.—Went to Newton . and warmed me awhile at John Rid's, and then went to chapel. [After service] got my mare, and came direct to the [Raddam] Laund; then came to John Parker, o' th' Lees,† and got 5s. of the present quarterage.

Feb. 2nd.—Spent the day wholly at home, and most beside Edward Rawcliffe, who was building a boose ‡ for my new cow.

Feb. 3rd.— . . Spent the forenoon in fetching my new cow, and the after in going to the burial of Edward Winder's daughter.

Feb. 7th, Lord's Day.—Came [after service] to Walmsley's with my love and Elizabeth Atkinson, of Scorton, and got one pint of ale and a penny-worth of brandy, mixed, and paid for it.

Feb. 8th.—Elizabeth Atkinson being for Mr. Jolly's, ‖ to visit Mrs. Watson, and I having business to Mr. Jolly concerning son Thomas going apprentice, we got my mare, and set forward, and

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* Where the roads from Thornley, Inglewhite, and Chipping meet.

† The Lees is on the Yorkshire side of the Hodder, about two miles from Chipping.

‡ A compartment in a shippon for cows.

‖ The Rev. John Jollie, nephew of the Rev. Thomas Jollie, who was ejected in 1662, from the incumbency of Altham, Lancashire. Mr. J. Jollie entered Mr. Frankland's academy, Feb. 22, 1688. He was ordained at Rathmel, May 26, 1698. He became assistant to his uncle at Wymond Houses, near Clitheroe, a chapel which was built for the Rev. T. Jollie, and in August, 1702, soon after his uncle's death, he was chosen to succeed him in the pastorate, and continued there until his own death, which took place June 29, 1725.—*Rev. R. Slate's M.S.*

went direct to Whalley, to the sign of the Swan and Horse Shoe, where we called, and dined; then went on to Mr. Jolly's, where we met but with a cold welcome. Notwithstanding, we went in, and told our business, and determined to lodge there.

Feb. 9th.—About eleven o'clock, I got my mare and Elizabeth, and came thence [from Mr. Jolly's] direct to Whalley, where Elizabeth, hearing of a shop to be let, had a mind to see it. I called at William Parr's, dined there, and Elizabeth viewed the shop, but hearing no encouragement for business to answer her ends, took it not; but we paid, and got our mare, and came homeward, and at the Chapel-house,* in Chædgsley,† my mare cast a shoe, which caused us to call at Walker Fold. Richard Walker, finding a few nails, set it on.

Feb. 10th.—Spent the day wholly at home, and in my closet, and nothing remarkable happened only a wandering straggle-brained clergyman called in his way to Goosnargh, and got some refreshment. His name is Smith, who pretends to hold a benefice in Derbyshire, not far from the Peak, and is driven aside by trouble arising from his being bound with a kinsman for £500; and Brother Miller came to lodge with us in his way to the Standing Hey.

Feb. 13th.— . . In the afternoon planted a few berry trees.

Feb. 14th, Lord's Day.—Set forward towards Newton, and had the company of a poor Scot, who names himself Gilbert Macmillan.

Feb. 15th.—Went to the Broomcroft,‡ and repaired some fences.

Feb. 16th.—Spent the day wholly in my house, and gardening.

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* There then was, and still is, a Nonconformist Chapel at Walker Fold, in Chaigley.

† The old name of Chaigley, so called, no doubt, from St. Chæd, Cead, or Chad, formerly Bishop of Lichfield, and the patron saint of that diocese, which, before the Reformation, included Lancashire and Cheshire. After the dissolution of the monasteries, the see of Chester was established; its area being mainly taken from that of Lichfield.

‡ A field about a mile from the village of Chipping, to the south-west, the property of the trustees of Hesketh Lane Chapel.

Feb. 17th.—Went to George Rogerson's, and bought 4 quarts of great beans.

Feb. 18.—Spent the day wholly in gardening and planting 60 berry trees.

Feb. 20.—Spent the day at home with my children, my love being gone to Preston.

Feb. 23.—Being under promise to meet Edward Holt with son Thomas, to offer him to the said Edward for an apprentice, got ready to go, and got my son, and went direct to William Darwen's, where we got a pint of ale, and found Edward Darwen's wife dead there, and the people coming in to the burial of her. So went on, and at Bashaw town* we found Robert Helm, who, in the name of Joseph Leeming, discouraged us in respect to Holt, and commended us to his son-in-law, Peter Venables. However, we went to Richard Heys's to meet Holt, who had been there, but was gone back to Clitheroe, and appointed us to follow him thither, but what we had heard of Holt discouraged us from following him to Clitheroe; but we went direct to Waddington, and put in our mare at John Leeming's, and sent for Robert Helm and Peter Venables. I showed Venables the boy, which he approved well of, and I asked what he would expect with my son, if I found him clothes, for seven years. He said £6. I bid him nothing, but told him I would confer with some of my friends about it, and let him know our conclusions.

March 17th.—[Went to Preston], and there in the fair till between four and five a'clock. . . In the evening was so cold that when I got in I was agueish, and ill in my bones.

March 23rd.—[After a Tuesday evening service at a private house] had some discourse about my son's being prentice to Peter Venables, of Waddington, but it was generally disapproved of by the brethren because this Peter was not a professor;† so I told Venables what they thought, and we ended.

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* Bashall Eaves, a township in the parish of Mitton, and West Riding of Yorkshire.

† We suppose they did not consider him a "professing" Christian; that is, he was not a member of the "church."

March 24th.— . . Spent the day most in Racliff field in fencing.

March 25th.— . . Was at home till betwixt 11 and 12 o'clock; then having occasion to Clitheroe, I and my love got our mare, and went direct thither, and put in our mare at Blackburn's, and had a pint of ale; then bought some leather and other necessaries, and came to our mare, called for our mare, and had one pint of ale, and paid for it, and came direct home.

March 26th.—Spent the forenoon in gardening.

March 27th.—Spent the day wholly in the Broomcroft.

March 29th.—Got ready for Blackburn . . and went direct to the George, in Blackburn, and in a little time came Mr. Towers to me, and told me that Mr. Grimshaw, of Lancaster,* had done with preaching. I asked, why? He said he had got his servant woman with child, and said moreover it was so, and that Mr. Grimshaw had confessed it. I said he was one of my worst enemies in my troubles,† but I was sorry for the news. So I enquired for William Entwistle, whom I came to treat with on behalf of my son Thomas, as an apprentice. The man came, and we agreed on a bargain—the child to serve four years, and to be let see into the whole trade of pled weaving,‡ and I to give 45 shillings with him, and find his clothes. So we parted.

* Mr. Grimshaw died in 1728. He had been a pupil of the Rev. R. Frankland, of Christ's College, Cambridge. He had two predecessors in the ministry,—the Rev. Robert Chadeston who died in 1687; and the Rev. John Carington, who died in 1701. Doctor William Marshall, vicar of Lancaster, was one of the ejected ministers in 1662. The first Nonconformist chapel in Lancaster was built in Moor-lane, on the site now occupied by the buildings in front of St. Ann's Church. The congregation afterwards removed to a chapel in Nicholas-street, built in 1740, and rebuilt in 1784. This is the present Unitarian Chapel. In 1773, some of the congregation seceded, and built the High-street, then Mount-street, Independent Chapel.—*The Church Guide and Congregational Hand-book (Lancaster.)* The pious George Burder was afterwards a minister at this chapel.

† What these troubles were are not stated. They would, no doubt, be recorded in an earlier diary, not now in existence.

‡ Pled, or plaid, weaving. Woollens, the pattern of which is a cheque, are still so-called. Blackburn cheques were long a noted manufacture.

March 30th.—Spent the forenoon at home, and the afternoon went down with my love to Chipping, and bought 2 pair of shoes for my sons Thomas and John, and about sun-set got home again.

March 31st.—This being our prayer day, I was in my closet till 10 a'clock. Then my love and I went down to the chapel, and I laid open the nature of the exercise, and prayed for a blessing.

April 16th.—This being our preparation for the Lord's Supper, I got ready for the chapel, and about the usual time I went down and prayed; then read the 86th Psalm, the 67th of Isaiah, and the 10th of the 1st of Corin. Then we sang part of a psalm, and I prayed, and preached from the 1st Corin., 7, 10—16, and went on the 4th thing signified by the bread in the Lord's Supper, what it obligates the receiver to; then ceased, and I prayed, and we sung a part of a psalm, and I dismissed the people; so examined James Pye in order to his admission to the Lord's Supper, and had some discourse with Elizabeth Seed, James Corner, and Sarah Morton, concerning a difference between them and Sarah Seed. But Sarah Seed would not stay to answer for herself, wherefore I heard what they had to say, and concluded all against Sarah; so went with my love to Cuthbert Threlfall, and bespoke some turf moss o' th' Wolfhouse Fell; so came to Esther Rogerson's, and paid her son Joshua for some cooper work he had done us, and bought a new back-board;* then came home.

April 17th.—Spent the day wholly at home in one innocent employ or other, especially in inclosing a little garden behind Wolfhouse.†

April 18th, Lord's Day.— . . Sermon being over, I dismissed the people; so called Sarah Seed

* A board used in baking oatcakes.

† Wolfhouse (locally pronounced "Woofus"), or Woolfenhall, is a little to the south-east of Parlick, and about a mile and a half from the village of Chipping. It is now a farm house, but its strong walls and some other remains attest its once having been a residence of some distinction. It was once the seat of the De Chepins, then of the family of Knolles, from whom it passed, by marriage, to a Sherburne, in which family it remained several years. It is now the property of the Earl of Derby. A chapel in Chipping church, south of the chancel, is appurtenant to Wolfhouse, and is called Wolfhouse choir.

aside, and Elizabeth Seed, her mother, and discoursed them concerning the division that is among them, and they both own they had been uneasy, but were now reconciled. So I proceeded to administer the Lord's Supper, and while the accustomed offering was collected we sung 2 verses of the 116th Psalm, and I dismissed the people; so went a while to Walmsley's, and refreshed me; then returned, and prayed; so came direct home with my love, Alice Martin, and Sarah Morton, having paid Thomas Walmsley his quarterage, viz., 1s. 6d., and in a little time dined.

April 19th. . . In my family and closet till near 11 a'clock, when I went down to the chapel, laid open the nature of the exercise, and the duty of praise and prayer were carried by Edmund Parkinson, Robert Parkinson, John Corner, and myself. . . Having my mare at the smithy, my love and I waited of her till she was done, and came on her home together.

April 20th. — Spent the day wholly at home waiting of Cuthbert Threlfall calling to go to the fell with me to show me my moss dale,* but it seemed he called not, but waited on me at the Wolfhouse, and was as uneasy at me that I came not to him as I was he called not on me.

April 21st.—Went to Cuthbert at the place appointed . . and I pitched on a moss dale.

April 22nd.—Spent the day wholly in helping son John to Astley House † with manure; only in the evening went to Edward Winder's to ask him to stir my fallows.

April 23rd.— . . Spent the day at home; only having errands to Chipping, I and my love went down and did them, and one part of what we did was paying Henry Bradley one guinea of that £2 I borrowed of him.

April 28th.—Henry Mawdsley came and desired me to write a letter for him to a cousin of his at London, which I did. Then, this being our prayer day, I got ready to go to chapel, and in my way thither called on Edward and Robert Winder, who

* Dale is a lot, plot, or share.
† A farm about a mile south-west of the village of Chipping.

were stirring my fallows. Being come to chapel, no body was come, all was locked; so I waited at Walmsley's till Edmund Parkinson, o' th' Cockhill, came; then went to chapel, and laid open the nature of the duty, and prayed for a blessing. So the exercise was carried on by Robert Parkinson, Thomas Thompson, Edmund Parkinson, and myself.

May 2nd.—[After service.] At noon spoke to the petition of Preston congregation,* and while the collection was we sung the 117th Psalm, and 3s. was collected.

May 5th.—Spent the day in my family till betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock; then got my mare, and went direct to the Wolfhouse, and got Henry [leaf torn] to give me a bushel of oats for my mare; he put a bushel of oats into my sack, but they were very light, and but small feeding in; so I bought of him a bushel of better to mix with them to make them better worth the mare's labour to eat them, and came homeward; in the way I called on John Wood to see if he would grave† my turf, and when; he said he would grave them, but what day he could not tell, but would send me word by John Parkinson, o'th Blackhall,‡ what day he would grave them.

May 9th, Lord's Day.--[After particulars of service at Newton.] Then I catechised the lesser [children] to the 15th question, the elder to the 2nd, in Henry's Catechism. . . While we sung, 6s. 1d. was collected for Preston meeting-house.* . . Jonathan Wilson and William Jackson told me that Jonathan's daughter was in child-bed; [she] had married a Quaker, but she desired me to come baptise the child. I promised. . . So got my mare, and came direct to Raddam Laund, and baptised Alexander Parker a son, calling his name Robert.

May 12th.—Came direct to William Storsacre's, in Nether Wyresdale, and bought two hats of him,

* The congregation of the chapel in Church-street, formerly called the Presbyterian, now the Unitarian, chapel. It was erected in 1723, and was the first Nonconformist chapel in Preston. The Preston congregation must have been few in number, and poor in purse, to send for aid to Chipping and Newton.

† To cut with a spade; to dig the ground.

‡ Blackhall, a farm about half a mile westward from the village of Chipping.

and had one shilling allowed for wool we sent him some time ago. So came to Brother Miller's, and dined, and was told how Mr. Jackson was turned out at Lancaster, and a young man from Warrington supplied his place.

May 18th.—[Leaf much torn.] Went to Tockholes Chapel ;* after service some of the ministers were in a parl.†. We understood they were consulting about the time appointed for Mr. Hesketh's ‡ ordination, and Mr. Gillibrand‖ said if they could but get Mr. Jolly into the same meaning they might undoubtedly carry it. Mr. Burgess§ asked Mr. Gillibrand what that was he said of Mr. Jolly. He answered Mr. Burgess to the effect above said, and much in the said words. Mr. Burgess assured him that Mr. Jolly would not consent to these matters, to have Mr. Yates joined in, Mr. Jolly having several objections to offer against it, at which Mr. Burgess went his way in some displeasure, and I followed, being in mind as far from complying to the thing as Mr. Burgess ; and we came direct to Andrew Berry's, where we called, and smoked each our pipe. Then called at another of Mr. Burgess's hearers, where were several young persons who did sing psalms very well. We stayed an hour full hearing them sing ; then came to Mr. Burgess's, where was my son's master waiting on me, with whom I went home, and supped.

May 20th.—Went to William Harwood's, and sat above an hour. Then William came with me to Mr. Sanderson's, and in a little time I got my mare,

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* There was at an early period a Nonconformist Chapel at Tockholes.

† A conversation, or consultation. Shakspere has the word "parle." In the "Two Gentlemen of Verona," Julia says: —(I, 2),

"Of all the fair resort of gentlemen,
That every day with *parle* encounter me."

‡ Mr. Hesketh was a Nonconformist minister appointed to the chapel at Carnforth, near Lancaster.

‖ The Rev. Joseph Gillibrand was one of the trustees in the original deed of Hesketh-lane chapel, dated April 11, 1705, and was probably its first minister. At this time, he was a minister of the congregation of Dissenters at St. Helen's, in this county. He was ordained, along with Mr. Hesketh, senior, in 1702; he was then a member of the church meeting at Wymond Houses.

§ Mr. Burgess was the Nonconformist minister at Darwen.

and came to Thomas Entwistle's, where I dined. Then Thomas came with me to Blackburn, where, at the King's Arms, we had two pints of cider, for which he paid; and I took my leave of him, and came direct home.

May 23rd, Lord's Day.— . . [After service] came direct to Raddam Laund, and dined; so being desired to return thanks for Dorothy Parker's comfortable recovery from child-birth, . . I returned thanks to God for hers and the family's mercy.

May 25th, Lord's Day.— . . At noon went to Walmsley's, and got refreshed at the expence of William Richmond . . catechised [as] to who is the redeemer of God's elect.*

July 18th, Lord's Day.—[After service] gave notice that . . Mr. Hesketh was to preach at the Wineinghouses† the next Sabbath. . . So came to Oakenshaw, and dined; so was for coming to John Hesmonhalgh's, but the women were importunate for me lodging with them; so I consented, and spent the evening in the library of the late Reverend Mr. Jolly. ‡

July 19th.—About a 9 a'clock we got our horses, and came direct to John Hesmonhalgh's, where I light, but stayed little. So came direct home, and dined, and spent the afternoon in haymaking.

July 20th.—Spent the day haymaking and leading.

July 23rd.—[After two wet days] spent the day in haymaking, and fine hay weather we had.

Sept. 3rd.—Spent the day wholly at home, and in my closet and besides the carpenters. . I paid them 4s. for their 4 days they had wrought for me.

Sept. 4th.—Being to preach at Forton to-morrow, I got ready, and between 2 and 3 o'clock I set forward, and went direct to John Miller's, in Neither Wirsdale. ‖

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* Many pages of the diary are here missing, and for the remainder of the year it is very imperfect.

† The chapel at Wymond Houses (see note ‖ page 10,) is now an old dilapidated building, and only occasionally used for divine service.

‡ The Rev. T. Jollie, the ejected minister of Altham.

‖ The mansion of P. Ormrod, Esq., Park Hill, Scorton, which is within the township of Nether Wyersdale, is built on "Miller's farm."

Sept. 5th, Lord's Day.—Went direct to Forton Chapel. . . I went to the pulpit, and prayed; then read the 33rd Psalm, the 33rd Ezekiel, and the 19th of St. Luke, and part of the 145th Psalm. I prayed, and preached from Genesis 6, 3. At noon, I withdrew into the gallery an hour or more; then went into the pulpit again, prayed, and read the 145th Psalm, and we sung part of the 81st Psalm, and I prayed; then preached on the subject as in the morning; sermon being ended, I prayed, read 2 briefs,* and we sung 2 verses, and I dismissed the people.

Sept. 6th.— . . . Got some cheeses weighed at Scorton smithy, viz., 62 pounds weight; then came to John Miller's, and the day being wet, I waited till about a 11 a'clock, when it being fairer, I gave John Miller 3s. 6d. towards the cheese price, and got my mare and cheese, and came to William Storsacre's, hatter, and got two hats of him,—one for me, the other for my love, for which I paid him 4s., only he gave me back 2 pence . . so I came direct to Robert Raby's,† where I light 2 hours or more with Mr. Aray. About a 11 a'clock, I got my mare and cheeses and hats, and came direct home.

Sept. 8th.—Spent the forenoon at the house, the afternoon in reaping some of my wheat with Mary Richmond.

Sept. 9th.—Spent the day at home in one innocent employment or another.

Sept. 12th, Lord's Day. — . . At Newton . . I went to the pulpit, and prayed. . . I catechised to the end of the Assembly's Shorter Catechism . . preached from Psalm 143, 3, and went on till I came to shew why He would heal the broken in heart. . . Dismissed the people; so came with John Jackson direct to the Pharwick House,‡ and dined there; then came direct home.

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* Letters or petitions; the term was often applied to papers authorising collections to be made in one place of worship for the benefit of another chapel or district, or other public object.

† At Oakenclough.

‡ Fairoak House, or, as it is called in the neighbourhood, "Farrick House," is in the Lancashire portion of the Forest of Bowland, between two and three miles from Chipping. It was the property, and long the residence of, the late

Sept. 13th.—Spent the day in getting home some rushes* out of our pasture, and some other matters.— P.S.—All that was remarkable to-day was, I was told by George and Jane Eccles, o' th' Parsonage,† that Hannah Parkinson's younger son James, o' th' Town end, fell off a wood bridge into Chipping brook to-day, and was drowned.

Sept. 16th.—Spent the day most on Peacock Moss‡ in rearing and helping son John to load turf.

Sept. 18th.—Spent the day in reaping my barley, and we cut the last of it to-day.

Sept. 19th, Lord's Day.— . . [After service.] At noon, I went to Walmsley's, and got some refreshment with a man that came to hear me from Mascuh,‖ and went to St. Lawrence's chapel ;§ then came back to prayer, and we sung

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J. Clince Parker, Esq., and is now the residence of his widow. It is at present the property of Mr. Little, Mr. Parker's nephew. In a song, by the late Rev. R. Parkinson, "The Hunter's Song," he says—

"Around the Fairy Oak I've seen
The gentle fairies dancing;
And, mounted light, in robes of green,
O'er Radholme gaily prancing."

The song appears in "Lancashire Lyrics," edited by Mr. Harland, and the editor adds a note to the effect that "Fairoak" is a corruption of Fairy Oak.

* The household would, no doubt, make their own rushlights.

† A farm in Chipping, belonging to the Bishop of Chester, as lay rector of Chipping.

‡ Peacock Moss has long been reclaimed, and now produces good agricultural crops, instead of turf.

‖ Myerscough; yet pronounced by country people as the diarist wrote it.

§ St. Lawrence's chapel, in Barton, was built sometime before the Reformation, and rebuilt in or about 1770. The Parliamentary Inquisition, in 1659, reported that it had "neither minister nor maintenance." The chapel received a grant of £200 from Queen Anne's bounty, and a like sum from Mr. Shuttleworth, of Barton. It was enlarged in 1845, and in 1850, having been endowed by C. R. Jacson, Esq., and Oliver Marton, Esq., patron of the vicarage of Lancaster, with alternate nomination to the incumbency, the chapel and burial ground were consecrated by the Bishop of Manchester, and constituted a district church, the district assigned to it being the northern part of the township of Barton, in the parochial chapelry of Broughton, and parish of Preston; the hamlet of Newsham, in the parochial chapelry of Goosnargh, and parish of Kirkham; the township of Myerscough, in the parish of Lancaster; and the township of Billsborrow, in the parish of Garstang.

part of a psalm, and prayed, and went on with the discourse on the subject, as in the morning, to the cure of sinful cares; so ceased, prayed, and we sung two verses of a psalm, and I dismissed the people. So came home with my love, and was in and about the house until evening.

Sept. 20th. — Spent the day on Wolfhouse Fell in helping son John to load turf. At night, John and Josias Gardner came to sew for us.

Sept. 25th.—Spent the forenoon in getting the last of the Peacock Moss turf, and the afternoon in getting part of my barley and gleaning my wheat stubble.

Sept. 26th, Lord's Day.—Got ready for Newton . . . and had a very wet journey, and at Nowton a great shower of snow fell; so that the hills were white, and several corn fields . . [after service] came direct to the Raddam Laund, and found Alexander Parker gone to the funeral of John *alias* Mr. Parkinson, o' th' Pharwick House.

Sept. 27th.—Spent the day in getting up potatoes in Broomcroft, and getting in the last of my barley.

October 17th, Lord's Day.—[Had service, and administered the Lord's Supper.] So the moneys collected was told.* . . paid 1s 10d. for one quart of wine [the sheet containing the other payments is torn] so that 1s. 4d. remained overcharge, which was all given to widow Pye, o' th' Four Lane Ends; so that all this collection was then and there disposed of.

October 18th.—[After service at chapel, being thanksgiving day] my love and I came direct home together, and got even to within a few roods of our door, where my love, stepping on a high stone in the causeway,† her ankle went out, and she fell to the ground. I was sore surprised when she told me her ankle was out, and offered to help her to her feet, but could not; so, calling son John to my help, I got her up, and carried her in, and sent

* Counted. This use of the word is kept up in the term "teller" used in connection with a bank, at the national exchequer, and in the divisions of the House of Commons.

† The paved road.

John to fetch in my mare to go fetch Ralph Wilkinson to put in the ankle; but he could not find the mare, wherefore I set out on foot to go for him, and having been long without food, I called at Walmsley's, and got a pint of ale, and accidentally met with Mr. John Haighton, surgeon, about dressing Richard Walmsley's leg. I made my wife's case known, and told my want, and Mr. Haighton told me he could readily put it in again. I was glad of it, and urged him to come to her, and try what he could do. He promised me to be at home as soon as me. I came direct home, and he was not long after me. In a little time he put in the ankle again, and anointed the leg with some hot oils that Mary Richmond had by her, and rolled it up, he having no seir cloth* to apply to it. So went his way again. I offered him pay, but he would have none.†

October 19th.—Spent the day wholly at home, and had no stranger to converse with but Edmund Parkinson, who told me that John Parkinson had told him that he must give me notice to remove from Daub Hall. I admired it,‡ seeing it's scarce a year since I took it of him for a 11 years.‖ Edmund had of me 12 awkendale§ of little potatoes for a shilling.

October 20th.—Had no strangers to converse with, only, about noon, Mr. Haighton came to see my love, but staid little, only while he anointed her leg with oil. In the afternoon, John Parkinson came to me into the orchard, and told me that

* Cere cloth; prepared cloth for bandages.

† The incident is noticeable as showing the respect the humble village pastor was held in by the surgeon foregoing his fee.

‡ The reverend gentleman is rather sarcastic.

‖ The diarist frequently uses the indefinite article before a numeral adjective. This was apparently very common formerly, as many instances occur in the old writers. Chaucer, in the "Squier's Tale," speaks of "a ten or twelve." Ben Jonson, in his play of "The Case is Altered," has (Act I., 5) "'Tis now a nineteen years agone at least;" and, in Macbeth (Act III., v.), Shakspere gives:—

"There's not a one of them but in his house
I keep a servant feed."

§ Awkendale is the name of a weight in general use in East Lancashire. It is 7lb. There is a measure also called by the name.

William Jackson, our great badger,* was broken to pieces; how Edward Parkinson, of Patten Hall,† had arrested Jackson's horses, but they were replevied by three men to whom Jackson had given judgment;‡ how Jackson owed him, John Parkinson, near £4 for shilled corn, which he was like‖ to lose it to a farthing. I told him what Edmund told me yesterday. He said little to it, but said he wanted to talk with me. I put off at present, being throng hogging up some of my potatoes, and he went away. So I covered the hog§ out. I have laid 85 awkendale of great potatoes.

October 22nd.— . . Dressed my children, got up my love, . . and was about my house till dinner . . . then went with son John to Moredisley Garden, and got a few potatoes. In the evening, I minded my goods** and family, my love being disabled by her leg to stir or do anything.

October 23rd.—Got the family up, and their breakfasts; so spent the day wholly at home, and mostly in my closet.

October 26th.—Being to go to Mr. Hesketh's ordination,†† I . . went direct to Brother John Miller's. . I set with Brother Miller and one John Wilson, a Scotch jockey, till near 9 a clock.

October 27th.—Got my mare as soon as day appeared, and set forward towards Carnforth, and got there about 10 a clock, and put in my mare at a private house in Carnforth, and got on my linen, and went to the meeting-house, and, finding the door locked, I went to widow Peel's, where I met with my brethren; and in a little time we went to the chapel, and Mr. Cooper‡‡

* A badger is a corn and provision dealer; the term is yet applied in Lancashire to persons who buy at farm-houses and sell at markets.

† Now usually called Thornley Hall, although in the neighbourhood it retains its ancient designation of Patten Hall.

‡ A bond. ‖ Likely.

§ A heap, covered with earth, is called a "hog." The Dutch have "hogh," a small hill.

** Cows, which are still called "goods" in many parts of Lancashire.

†† At Carnforth.

‡‡ The Rev. Thomas Cooper, Independent minister of Bispham, in the Fylde.

opened the exercise with prayer, read the 132nd Psalm, the 3rd of the 1st Timothy, and we sung part of the 132nd Psalm; then Mr. Lomax prayed; then I prayed; then Mr. Aray preached from Jer. 3, 15, "And I will give my pastors according to my own heart, &c." Then Mr. Hesketh . . satisfactorily answered every question. Then we set him apart to the work of the ministry, and Mr. Atkinson gave a charge from 1st Timothy, 4 to 16; . . dismissed the people; then all the ordained ministers signed Mr. Hesketh's certificate, the number and name of whom were as follow:—

1 Mr. ROBERT HESKETH, Craven.
2 Mr. JOHN ATKINSON, Stainton.
3 Mr. ELIEZER ARAY, Forton.
4 Mr. THOMAS BENSON, Hoghton Tower.*
5 Mr. JOHN LOMAX.†
6 Mr. JOHN MAYER, Rivington.
7 Mr. DAVID MC.MURRY, Garstang.
8 Mr. THOMAS MOSS, Elswick.
9 Mr. THOMAS COOPER, Bispham.
10 Mr. PETER WALKDEN, Chipping.

There was present one candidate, Mr. Bent, Lancaster, so that Mr. Robert Hesketh, newly ordained to Carnforth, made up the number of ministers. We all went to widow Peel's, but staid little—only while each had a glass of wine; then parted; and Mr. Aray and I came direct to Lancaster ere we refreshed ourselves, at one Armstrong's, who keeps the Blue Anker, and set an hour; so came to Mr. Aray's.

Dec. 4th.— . . Mr. Leo. Leigh paid me the half-year's rent for Threshfield tenement.

Dec. 8th.—Being for John Parker's prayer day, I got ready, and soon after ten o'clock I set forward, and went direct thither, and found few come only old John Corner and young John Corner. I waited little, people came, and then laid open the nature of the duty, and prayed for a blessing. The exercise was carried on by John Parker, Joseph Leeming, John Corner, and I concluded. I came homeward

* The Hoghton family were then warm supporters of Nonconformity.
† Address illegible.

with Robert o' th' Coldcoats to the lane ends, above Chipping, where our ways parted, and I came direct home.

Dec. 14th.—Spent the day wholly at home in some innocent employ or other.

Dec. 17th.—Spent the day wholly at home, only in the evening I went down to John Clarkson's, and accounted with him, and paid off all dues to him, and got his receipt, and came direct home, and in the way met with John Wilson, of whom I bespoke a foot of his cow in meat,* and he told he would kill her to-morrow night, at seven o'clock.

Dec. 21st.—In the afternoon went to John Wilson, and bought half a foot of his beef,* at 10s.

Dec. 22nd.—In the evening, I took a field of Ralph Ellison for pasture, lying before Henry Richmond's door, with a little meadow before it for hay, at £2 10s. per year, from the 2nd of February next to that day twelve months after, two shillings of which above said sum is to be given or abated according as the pasture answers, but 50 shillings is the utmost I am to pay, let it prove to the best.

Dec. 23rd.—Being to assist Jane, wife of James Seed, in returning thanks to God for the mercy of safe deliverance and comfortable recovery from the pains and danger of child-birth, I got ready, and between 11 and 12 o'clock set forward, and went direct to James Seed's. [After the service] I dismissed the people with a solemn blessing; so bought some pork and a cheese of James Seed, and paid for them, and got my mare, and came home.

Dec. 31st.—This evening, being in health, rose, and prayed, and praised God; so washed, and prayed in my family; so there being a bitter fend between Sarah Seed and her sister, and sister Mary's husband, and they all blaming Sarah's conduct, at Sarah Morton's request I went to Elizabeth Seed's, and discoursed Sarah Seed, but she was passionate and humorous,† and I saw no good

* A curious mode of buying beef.

† In a bad humour; the word is now current in quite a different meaning. Mr. Walkden uses the word in its correct old English meaning, and as it was used by the old dramatists. One of Beaumont and Fletcher's plays is entitled "The Humorous Lieutenant," not meaning droll as the modern

could be done ; so I left, and came home again, and supped ; so read the 13th of Proverbs, and prayed in my family, and retired into my lodging-room, and commended my soul to God, and lay down beside my love, and slept well. Blessed be God. Conclusion.

Thus ended the year 1725, in health, peace, and comfort. Lord, forgive the sins of it, and give me grace to begin and spend the new year more to the honour of God, the credit of his cause, the edification of my congregation and family, and eternal felicity of my own immortal soul, which God, of his mercy, grant, for my dear Redeemer's sake ; to whom with the Father and Holy Ghost be praises, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

P. WALKDEN. | FINIS. | HIS BOOK. | 1725.

[Here follows an elaborately compiled index to the entries in the diary.]

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sense is, but capricious and self-willed ; and in the same sense, in Shakspere's "As You Like It," there occur the lines

"The duke is *humorous* ; what he is indeed
More suits you to conceive than I to speak of."

And in the second part of Henry the Fourth there is

"As *humorous* as winter, and as sudden
As flaws congealed in the spring of day."

DIARY FOR THE LATTER PART OF THE YEAR 1729.

July 1, 1729.—This morning, being in health, rose, and prayed, and praised God, so set son John to lead hassocks* off Longridge†, and I washed and prayed in my family, so I spent the day at home in my closet and family. In the afternoon came a daughter of the late Richard Slater for 2s. for a half bushel and tems‡ we bought of him. I thought it had been paid, when she came for it at seed time, but my love said not, so I paid her the 2s.; and in the evening I prayed in my family, and retired into my lodging room, and commended by all to God, and lay down beside my love, and slept well. Blessed be God. P.S.—This evening, son Thomas went to Richard Shuttleworth's smithy, and bought a new scythe at 2s. 4d., but he light of no pole and stone.

July 2.—Son John went to the coal pit, and fetched one load ‖ of coals for Ralph Wilkinson, and another for Thomas Cottam, and when John came home with Cottam's load, I and son Thomas went with it to Cottam's smithy . . . and we ground my old scythe, and I intended Thomas to mow the chapel yard, but he could mow none with it, so I

* Hassock is a reed, rush, or coarse grass, from which mats were formerly made; hence the term is applied to mats, and also to cushions on which persons kneel at church.

† Longridge Fell. The term is sufficiently expressive, and refers to the *long ridge* of fell extending from Alston to Chaigley. The name has since been given to a village at the foot of the fell, situated in the townships of Alston and Dilworth, and noted for its stone quarries, as well as for the purity of its air, and the extensive and varied views which its elevated position commands.

‡ A sieve, usually used in a dairy.

‖ A horse load; at the time the diarist wrote, horseback was the usual means of locomotion both for persons and goods; indeed the roads were then scarcely passable for wheeled conveyances. The nearest coal-pit would be in the neighbourhood of Blackburn. Carts were occasionally employed for work about the farms, and near home.

mowed it myself, and we got each a pint of ale and milk. . . . . This evening, James Bleasdale came to our house, and promised he could sew for our family about the middle o' th' next week.

July 3.—Son John led* hassocks off Longridge with both mares . . . . and I was getting up turf, and mowing, and making the hay cut down in our calf paddocks till five o'clock. Then Thomas Seed, o' th' Little Town†, having ended his marling, and invited me and my love to the Fell End‡ to be cheerful with him, at Ellen Seed's, she and I went to Ellen Seed's, and were with the marlers till betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock, and I paid 6d. to Ellen Seed for what newspapers I have had this half-year, and was told we must have no more . . . . . got home before sunset. . . . . P.S.—To-day, my son John led four loads of turf of his own getting, and on Tuesday he led four single loads and one double. And, this afternoon, son Thomas went and winrowed‖ our turf o' th' Black Moss, and cocked our grass i' th' chapel yard.

July 4.—Son John went to th' fell for a double load of hassocks; . . . . when he came home we got breakfast, then he went to the chapel yard with the mares and carts, and fetched home the hay that is in it, and brought it to the back of our barn, and spread it; and he went to the fell again, and fetched another double load of hassocks. . . . . When son John came home with the second load he told me that John Bleasdale was for the market to-morrow, and wanted paying for delivering hassocks. I sent him ten groats§ for ten loads of turf delving; so he fetched a third and last load, and cleared all our turf off the fell. My stack being considerably short of full, I bid John ask Bleasdale if he had any turf to sell, when he brought account back that he had; so i' th' evening, son Thomas went about a scythe pole, and I bid him ask Bleasdale how many

* Conveyed; the word is often used to represent carting in various parts of Lancashire.

† A collection of cottages in Thornley, at the foot of Longridge fell, is called "Little Town."

‡ Two cottages on Longridge fell above Tootell Height, are called Fell End.

‖ Placed in wind-row; so as to be dried by the wind.

§ 3s. 4d.

turf he had to sell, who brought word back four loads. . . . . N.B.—To-day, when I came home from the chapel yard, I found Brother Henry Woodworth at my house, who showed us two letters from old Christopher Brooks, which intimated that our uncle at Oxford* was very weak, and they desired Brother Henry to come to Oxford with all possible speed, for they feared that our uncle would be dead ere he came up, and besides his absence would expose him to great loss. Brother Henry desired a lend of my watch to Oxford. It was at Preston, but I writ to Mr. Orme† to deliver it to him done or undone. Also, in the afternoon, called James Bell. I asked him what I owed him; he said there was something on Edward Murray's book. . . . . Edward Murray's book demanded 1s. 6d., and his one shilling. I gave him half-a-crown, but he gave me 6d. back on account of Edward Murray lodging with us. So we are clear of all the scots‡ that I know of.

July 5.— . . . . Sent son John to Garstang to buy us half a windle of barley. . . . . Son John came home with halt a bushel of barley, or 2 pecks, at 3s. 8d. per peck, and 6d. got back. . . P.S.—This afternoon, I accounted about a neck of veal and calf foot I had [of John Brown] to-day se'nnight; he had 7½d. for them, and son John had led him 2 loads of turf off Longridge, for which he

* A Mr. Woodworth. Some particulars of his death, and the unpleasantness that resulted from his disposition of his property appear hereafter.

† Mr. John Orme was a watchmaker, and we learn from a rate book for the township of Preston, for the year 1732, now in the archives of the Corporation, that he and his son, Mr. Henry Orme, who was an apothecary, occupied the premises, No. 1, Fishergate, now occupied by Mr. Bee, boot and shoemaker. At the Guild of 1702, Mr. John Orme was admitted to the freedom of the borough in consideration of his services rendered at that Guild. At the Guild of 1722 he was a councilman, and at the Guild of 1742, his son, Mr. Henry Orme, was a councilman.

‡ Shots, from the Anglo-Saxon term *scoat*, a share or reckoning, in which sense the term is used in a "scot and lot" voter, a person who pays his share of taxes, and bears his lot or part of public offices. Is the term "travelling Scotchmen," applied to itinerant dealers in tea, drapery goods, &c., derived from their being scots-men—men supplying goods and collecting the *scot* or money for them by instalments? Many of them are Scotchmen, but the term is applied to all the class irrespective of their nationality.

had paid me 8d.; no money passed betwixt us, but one debt paid the other, and he owed me a halfpenny.

July 6, Lord's Day.—[During service] read the two briefs viz., Napton and Tamworth church briefs, both in the county of Warwick.

July 7.— . . . So wanting some hassock turf to top our stack with . . . son John led me 4 double loads home, and 2 double loads to John Bleasdale's for John Bleasdale, at 3d. per load. . . I paid [John Brown] 11d. for the leg of mutton that I bespoke on Saturday last, only he allowed me the halfpenny at the calf's foot.

July 8.—In the afternoon finished my stacking.

July 9.— . . . . Set son Thomas to mow for me, and I sodded* the turf stack top, and dressed the mull† from beside it, and from the staddle‡ of our old one.

July 10.—Spent the day wholly in helping son John to load Black Moss turf, and we had 5 loads, and a few in the cart-chest in 3 falls and a half.‖

July 11.—Sent son John to the coal-pit with both mares, ordering him to leave the coals at old dame Parkinson's on bringing them home, and son Thomas went home with his piece, and brought a new warp§ . . . I spent the day wholly at home in stacking my Black Moss turf, in repairing rakes, in mowing, and in weeding and dressing our barn garden.

July 12.—Yesterday, John Hamner called on me, and told me how his wife was, and to what straits he was reduced, to whom I gave 3d. On Wednes-

* Stacks, as well as houses, were then often covered with sods, instead of being thatched.

† Mull is the dust or small portions of the turf.

‡ The support of a stack; pieces of timber or other materials on which a stack is erected.

‖ A fall of land varies in different parts of the country. It is a square perch; statute measure it contains 30¼ square yards; seven yards measure 49 yards; seven and a half yards measure 56¼ yards; and, according to the Cheshire measure, 64 yards.

§ This would imply that weaving was a portion of the household employment of the reverend gentleman's family. At that time, indeed, the distaff and the spinning wheel were a part of the furniture of almost every family who were necessitated to earn their livelihood, and even of some in a better social position. Linen, however, and not calico, was the staple of the spinning wheel and the loom at that time.

day evening, Robert Whittle called on me, to whom I paid the highway gaud*, 3s. 8d. And, to-day, my love was at Proud Preston†, and sold 7 pound of butter at 4d. the pound, and bought me and my Mary‡ each a pair of stockings, 1s. 4d., and me a bottle of ink, 1d.; the children's stript woonsey, ‖ one yard and a half, 1s. 3d.; and black Jersey for footing my old stockings, 2d; in all, 3s. 3d.; drew for butter, 2s. 3d.

July 13, Lord's Day.—Got ready for Newton, . . about 7 o'clock, though it rained sore, got my mare, and set forwards; but it rained so exceedingly that I was forced to shelter at John Rhodes's, and the great rain continued so long, that it was too late to reach Newton in time; so it raining fast, and seemed as it would continue to rain, and I being sore wet, I got my mare and came direct home.

17.—Spent the afternoon in helping son John to weed potatoes.

July 18.—It being preparation day§, I got ready for chapel, and walked thither, and went into the pulpit, and prayed and read a psalm, and the 2nd of canticles, and. . . preached from Eccles. 12c. 14v. . . . Went to Mr. Gradwell's, of Chipping, and bought 2 quarts of wine,** at 1s. 7d. the quart, and offered a guinea to change, but it could not be done, so left the wine to pay for, and ordered Ann Boardman to bring them on Lord's Day. . . . I, wanting the latter end of moneys from John Wilson, went into Wilson's, who gave me another guinea. I had not silver to pay back the overplus, so he bid me keep it . . . and concluded I was 2s. overpaid. . . . . I had a pint of ale, of which I made Ann Boardman drink.

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* A rate or tax; the term gaud, gauld, or geld, is the same as our term guild, and signifies a rate or the contribution to a common fund, from the Anglo-Saxon *gald* or *geld*.

† Our own town of Preston, which, to distinguish it from the numerous other Prestons, was called "Proud Preston," on account of its proud, *i. e.* genteel, inhabitants. In many parts of the country it yet retains its ancient soubriquet; and it is not unusual for letters to arrive at the Preston post-office, addressed "Proud Preston."

‡ His daughter. ‖ Striped linsey woolsey.

§ A day of religious service, preceding, and preparatory to, the administration of the Lord's Supper.

** For sacramental purposes.

July 22.—Sent son John to the coalpit with both mares. . . . . Thomas Rhodes, our neighbour, desired the lend of half a quarter of coals to burn lime . . which I promised him, and ordered son John to go to Henfield*, and bring him 2 loads. P.S.—This morning, called one John Watson, a webster,† in Stoneygate-lane,‡ and proffered to sell us what linen cloth we pleased to buy. I bought two yards and a half for me a shift, at 1s. 2d. per yard, and paid him 2s 7½d. for it, which I borrowed of son Thomas.

July 23.—I, and my love, and son Thomas went to Thomas Seed's, at Little Town, and viewed a heifer of his that he had of old John Billington about the last Ribchester fair. . . . . I bought her of him, at £4 2s. 6d. . . . and we brought her home with me. She is four years old, and is with the second calf.

July 24.— . . . . Cousin Catharine Miller called and told us our uncle, John Woodworth, of Oxford, was dead, but when, she knew not; and she and my love went to Fell End, to have bought my daughter Mary a pair of shoes; but they found none fit, so bought none; but got me a guinea changed into silver, and brought me £1 0s. 6d. home.

July 25.—My landlord came . . . and I paid him £1 16s., in addition to £7 4s. 1½d., and £2 10s. and £1 10s. make the entire sum of £12 15s 1½d., so that I overpaid my rent for 1728 one penny halfpenny. He gave me 2s. 6d. towards . . . the highway cess.‖

July 26.— . . . Helped my children Thomas, John, and Margaret to weed our potatoes.

July 27, Lord's Day.— . . . . Got on my mare, and went direct to Newton, and went into Edward Parkinson's, and got a penny pot of ale. So went towards the chapel, and in the way met Thomas Jackson, who told me that Roger Salisbury's wife was dead and buried above a week ago, and that Attorney Salisbury's wife was brought to bed of a

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* Enfield, near Accrington. † A weaver.
‡ A lane leading from Ribchester to the top of Longridge fell; the old Roman highway.
‖ A rate or tax.

son on Monday last, so I went into the chapel chamber, and Joseph Leeming came to me and said that his son Nathaniel had been very ill of a knee-swill,* that he had recommended him to the prayers of this church, but now was got well, which he desired I would acquaint the church with, and desire 'em to assist him in returning thanks to God for it. I promised I would do so, so went into the pulpit. I catechised the children to how doth the spirit apply to us the redemption purchased by Christ. Then . . . . I preached from Romans VIII., 38, 39, and pursued the doctrine concerning a believer's communion with God, to the second head, and confirmed the truth in hand, by Scripture. . . . . Then dismissed the people, so went into Edward Parkinson's and got a penny pot of ale, and paid for both, and then walked to the Fowlskils to my mare, got her and came to Radham Laund, and dined there, then got my mare, and came direct home, and found all well, and was in my closet and family till evening. . . . . P.S.—This evening, Thomas Rhodes came to me and told me that he desired to stir his fallows this week, to begin in the morning, and desiring that I would send him one of my mares to plow with his by sun rising. I said I would do my best to do so.

July 28.—Helped son Thomas to mow the leys† in our meadow, and the rest of the day I spent in haymaking.

July 30.—Sent son John and my little mare, with cousin Catharine Miller, to carry her homewards from our house. . . . It being thanksgiving day for the mercies of the Lord's Table, and of the former harvest, I got ready, and people being come I laid open the nature of the ordinance, and prayed for a blessing. So I read the 65th Psalm, and Robert Parkinson and I carried on the exercise, and we sung most of the 14th Psalm. . . . Duty being over, I dismissed the people, and left my Bible at Walmsley's, and bought a bottle of aliger‡ and pint of ale, for which I paid. So came direct home and dined, then helped my children at the hay.

* We presume a swelled-knee is meant.
† Land that had been usually pasture.
‡ Sour ale, as vinegar is, or should be, sour wine.

July 31.—My love went to the fell end, and bought for us soap, 6d., scissors, 2d., for Thomas a pair of stockings, 4d., for my Mary a pair of shoes, must be 1s. 5d, or the shoes again to-morrow.

Aug. 2.—This morning, Richard, son of Robert Dunderdale, came and told that the window peeper* was in the parish, and we, having ten windows, must make one up or pay 6s. year. At dinner time, Henry Richmond came, and gave me one shilling for a load of coals. I said there were two. He said they had paid for one. I could not remember it, but their boy said he had given it me on Lord's Day, was a three weeks. I could not bring it to mind, and we parted unsatisfied about it. To-day, son Henry and my love went to Preston, and sold as much butter as bought a stone† basin, cost 9d., and paid for Margaret new shoes, 1s. 5d.

Aug. 3.—Lord's Day. . . got ready for chapel, and about 9 o'clock walked thither, almost on foot, my sons following me with my great mare, and it rained all or most of the way. Being got thither, son Thomas put the mare into the chapel yard, and I went into the pulpit. . . . At noon I went into Walmsley's and got a pint of ale, and paid for it; then went to chapel again and prayed; then I catechised the children over the commandments . . . so I got my mare and son Henry, and came home and dined, so was in my closet and family till evening, when my children read the Scriptures, and we sung part of a hymn, and I prayed in my family.

Aug. 4.—Sent son Thomas to Knoles mill with some bread corn to grind . . so spent the day wholly at home in getting and stringing peas, only after 4 o'clock I went with my love to Mr. Thomas Eccles's shop; we bought a coat cloth for me, 4 yards and a half; cloth for me new breeches, a yard and a half; in all 6 yards, at 4s. per yard; a dozen and a half of coat buttons, and 5 knots mohair, one hank of silk or more, 2 ounces or more black thread,

* A government officer appointed to count and report upon the number of windows in houses, so as to charge the duty to the occupiers. The window duty was first imposed in the year 1689. It was several times increased in amount; it was finally abolished in 1851.

† Stone ware.

2 yards of serge or shalloon, 2 yards broad serge for covering Mary's gown, a yard and a half of flannel for my vest lining, 2 dozen vest buttons (old-fashioned), half a yard of buckram, 2 yards coarse cloth, 1s. 8. per yard, for son John a vest; so got all bound together, and came to Ellen Seed's, where Mr. Eccles gave us a treat, viz., 3 little twopenny pots of ale, and I called for one, and paid for it.

Aug. 9.—Son Thomas went to Preston, and sold 4 pounds of butter to Madam Suddal*, at 4d. per pound, and three pennyworth of eggs, and bought 2 sickles for 8d., a primer† for Ann, 3d.

Aug. 10, Lord's Day.—About seven a clock I set forward; and rid direct to Newton. . . [After service] John Harrison, of Waddington, shewed me a letter from his daughter, at London, and I read it, in which I find that Mr. Hargreaves had told Mr. Rutt, of London, some reports of me that he had heard in the country, and that Mr. Rutt had procured me a further favour at London. As I was reading the letter, came Margaret Leigh, and told me that her daughter Salisbury recovered well; that she gave her service to me, that she desired that I would not fail to bless God for his kind favours bestowed on her.

Aug. 11.—Helped son John to pull up our garden peas. P.S.—Yesterday evening, Ann Parkinson, my daughter's school dame, came to our house, and told us that our daughter's quarters were up on Tuesday last, and that the wages due to her should go towards paying for the quarter of coals she has had of me, and that she would have me bring her half a quarter more at my leisure. . . . To-day, James Bleasdale, being for the Gill, at Long-ridge end, wanted moneys of me. I paid him 2s.

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* Madam Suddal, Sidall, or Siddall, for all these orthographies occur in the diary, was, no doubt, a shopkeeper of that day, and was probably of the old Preston family of Sidall, Suddall, or Sudell, whose name frequently occurs in our Guild rolls. Several of the family were Mayors of Preston, and one (Roger Sudell) was, in 1826, Guild Mayor. Another of the family, an old Preston worthy, Roger Sudell, founded the Blue School, in Preston. Mrs. Suddall, as we find by reference to the old rate-book before alluded to, lived in Church-street, at, or near, the premises lately occupied by Mr. Benson.

† The first lesson book for a child.

Aug. 12.—Edmund set* out my great mare to plow at Thomas Rhodes's. Spent the day wholly at home in one honest employment and another. In the morning, son John and I repaired the meadow yate,† and the fence at the garden bottom. We began to shear oats, but being not full ripe, we did but cut down twenty sheaves. Then I set son Thomas and son John to lead out manure into our meadow. . . . P.S.—This evening, Agnes Eccles came home from Ellel with my little mare in safety, and John Eccles put her a while in his field, but she came of herself into our fold, and we put her to grass. John Eccles said nothing of pay for her, but I intend to have‡ a day for the three days' work.

Aug. 13.—Spent the day in paving at our shippon and barn door.

Aug. 15.—My sons Thomas and John helped Thomas Rhodes to reap his wheat.

Aug. 20.—John Wilkinson sent his daughters, Jane and Jennet, who helped us all day for help again.‖

Aug. 22.—My love was for getting some crowberry,§ so she, and I, and son Thomas, went into the Forty Acres,** and got four quarts.

Aug. 23.—I lent my mare to Richard Salisbury, to go to Blackburn with Edward's pieces,†† and son John went to Preston with 4 pounds of butter and 8 eggs to Madam Suddal. . . . I spent the day wholly at home in helping son Thomas to reap oats in our meadow beside home. Salisbnry brought the mare home, and brought me 6d. for her service,

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* "Let" or "hired." People often speak in Lancashire of "setting" a farm or a piece of work.

† Gate.

‡ The edge of the leaf is worn, and a word lost. He received at other times 6d. a day for the hire of a horse.

‖ It would appear that the householders of that day were accustomed to mutually accomodate each other at busy seasons by members of the household helping a neighbour.

§ The crowberry grows on Longridge Fell, but it would not make very palatable tarts or preserves. Let us hope that they rather gathered the whinberry, which is equally plentiful on the fell, and much more tasty.

** Forty Acres is on the Longridge fell, above Thornley. It is so marked on the Ordnance Map. In the year 1857, "Forty Acres" was the site of a military camp in connection with the Preston Barracks.

†† Of cloth which he had woven.

and son John got home from Preston, and brought 1s. 6d. for butter and eggs.

Aug. 24, Lord's Day.—I got my great mare and set forward, and went direct to Newton, and put in my mare at the chapel, and went into Edward Parkinson's and got a penny pot of ale. Then I went to chapel. . Went with William and Isabell Jackson to th' Sikes*, and carried Richard Parkinson's danghter behind me to her father's. Then came on to Chipping, and called at John Wilson's door, and got a penny pot of ale. Then I came on to this side Hesketh-lane, and, meeting the clerk of Chipping, I paid him two leys,† due to him the last Whit-Sunday, viz., 7d. P.S.—This morning, as I went through Forty Acres, John Wharton told me that there was some moneys for me at his house. I told him I would come or send for it to-morrow. He said I owed him for a cheese, did I not? I said yes. He said he thought I had forgot it. I said nay; but I thought when the moneys came I would pay him. He said he had forgot what it came to. I said half-a-crown. And, as I went towards the Sykes, Robert Parkinson's daughter told me that Robert Key, *alias* Greakey, of Kirk Parish, was convicted of forgery and horse stealing, at Lancaster, this assize. He had his trial yesterday.

Aug. 25.—Set Thomas and John to bat‡ oats for bread. Spent the day wholly at home in carrying bats to John Eccles's barn. Sent son John to New Buckley‖ for a horse load of slate, and I threshed with son Thomas, and we got all batted that we had led into the barn, and the wind blowing, we winnowed the corn, but night prevented our taking it off the floor. Son John brought a load of slate, having paid 1s. 3d. for it.

Aug. 28.—I went to John Wharton's, o' th' High

* The Sykes is in the Trough of Bowland, the ancient highway between Clitheroe and Lancaster. Sike or Syke is an ancient name for a small brook or running stream, and is often applied to the valley or low land through which a stream runs.

† Local rates or taxes.

‡ To strike the sheaves against a stone in order to shake out the grain.

‖ The working of the slate delph at New Buckley has only been disused a few years; it was for a long time a somewhat noted quarry.

House, and drew the moneys he told me of on Lord's Day, and paid him 6d. for bringing it me, and 2d. for carrying a letter to York, and for the cheese, which weighed 9 pounds exact, I paid 1s. 10d. It came to a halfpenny more,* but I had no brass, so left a halfpenny to pay. P.S.—Son Thomas went to James Cowen, and bought a loin of mutton of him, price 5d., but it's to pay for as yet.

Aug. 31, Lord's day.—Went down to chapel, and people being not come, and my daughter Mary being thirsty, I went into James Walmsley's, and got a penny pot of ale, and some small drink.† . . At noon, I went into James Walmsley's, and got some refreshment, and while I was there came Richard Parkinson, and told me that Mr. Helm, schoolmaster, near Hoghton Tower, was examined‡ of late, at Preston, and approved, and licensed as a candidate to the ministry, and had desired to preach a sermon at this chapel if I would admit him. . . I said I would not oppose it if the people pleased. . . George Boardman gave me what he had collected of summer fair quarter, viz., 8s. ; and Robert o'th Coldcoats paid me his and his sister's summer fair quarterage, and I got a pint of ale at Walmsley's while I called and rested there, and a pennyworth of gingerbread.

Sept. 1.—Sent my little mare to plough at Thomas Rhodes's, he beginning to-day to sow his wheat. I owe him two days and a half of one mare plowing. I sent son Thomas to shear for Richard Parkinson, at Bradley Hall,‖ to-day. . . In the afternoon, I went with my love to Mr. Eccles's shop, and we bought there 2 yards and a half Kersey, 1s. 8d. a yard ; 4 ounces of thread, 2½d. the ounce; and a knot of mohair, 2d. ; 5s. 2d. in all ; and then

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* *i.e.*, 2½d. a pound.

† A weak kind of malt liquor, or table beer, is still called "small drink" in some parts of Lancashire.

‡ By the authorities of the Nonconformist body preparatory to his admission to the ministry.

‖ Bradley Hall is a farmhouse in Thornley, the property of the Earl of Derby; it was purchased in 1666, by Charles, the eighth earl. It was once the seat of a family of the name of de Bradley. In the reign of Edward the First it belonged to Robert de Bradley.—*Rev. Canon Raines's Notes to the Notitiæ Cestrienses.*

my love went to Mr. Singleton's, and we paid him 20s. towards what we owe him, and he and I had 3 pints of ale at cousin Throop's, which we joined at paying for. So I and my love came direct home, and got the Taylor's supper.*

Sept. 5.—I went direct to Newton, and in the way I was asked by Thomas Hesketh to bring him a quishon† from the Fowlskills.‡ . . Went into Edward Parkinson's, and got a pot of ale; then went to chapel, and young John Cawson came to me and gave me a shilling for Margaret Bond de Burham,‖ and told me to tell James Harrison to come over and pay what he was indebted to James Hill, or he would be sued, and soon, for Hill was very uneasy. . . I got some refreshment at Edward Parkinson's, and paid for meat and drink both morning and evening, 4d, and a penny to the smith [for fastening the mare's shoes].

Sept. 6.—My love and son Henry took my little mare, and mounted, and rid to Preston, and my great mare ploughed at Thomas Rhodes's, and they finished wheat seeding there. . Got my mown beans into barn and battock. . My sons Thomas and John went a nutting.

Sept. 7, Lord's Day.—Got my mare, and went direct to Newton, and put in my mare at Edward Parkinson's, and got a penny pot of ale, and paid for it; then went to Thomas Hill, and did an errand to him for James Harrison; then went into chapel, and found Joseph Leeming in the chamber, who told me that his son Nathaniel was far out of order again; that he desired to send to Mr. Burgess to get his judgment and directions for cure, and wanted me to go thither . . and we concluded

* The "tailor's supper" is a phrase meaning "little" or "nothing." Sometimes "the tailor's supper" is said to be his own goose. "Halliwell's Archaic Dictionary" gives "Tailors' mense:—A small portion left by way of good manners;" and in "Carr's Craven Glossary" the author says:—"In some parts of the North it is the custom for the village tailor to work at his customer's house, and to partake of the hospitality of the family board. On these occasions the best fair is invariably provided, and the tailor, to show that he has had enough, generally leaves a little on his plate, which is called "tailor's mense."

† Cushion. ‡ Fowlscales; a farm at Newton, in Bowland.

‖ Burholme is on the Hodder, about a mile above Whitewell.

to go on Tuesday next, and to meet at the Cross Keys, in Blackburn, at 9 o'clock.

Sept. 8.—Cut the last of my wheat and the beans that grew in my little hey.

Sept. 11.—Got ready for coming from Fernhurst to Hodder Bridge,* . . and came to Blackburn, and the mare having but half a shoe on one hinder foot, and a broken shoe on the other, I got two new shoes set on, for which I paid 6½d., and I had a pint of ale, 2½d. So came direct through Whalley and Mitton to Hodder Bridge, and got in soon after 10 o'clock. John Harrison, of Waddington, was not come, but he was not long after me, and he and I retired into the parlour, and called for a pint of ale, and he told me that he had orders to pay me £5, but he had occasion to borrow a part of me, and I must tell him how long I could spare it. I told him he was welcome to have the lend of it till Martinmas.† He said it should be then ready. So he counted me £2 8s.; so he retained in his hands £2 12s. And I had paid for him 6s. 10d. to old Robert Croisdale, which made the sum £2 18s. 10d.; for this he gave me a bill to pay me the £2 18s. 10d. on or before the 11th of November next ensuing the date thereof. So we dined, and I paid for all we expended in meat and drink, 9½d. So we parted, and I came direct to the Tinkler Fold, and bought of Sarah 4 boards and a shelf, in the house, at 1s. 6d. I paid her 1s. 6d. for 'em, and she offered to sell me a cloth yard, with brass nails in, that was her late husband's first wife's, at a shilling. I pleaded for an abatement, and she offered to give me a half jack‡ of spirits in at it;

* This would be the Higher Bridge of Hodder, where the river Hodder divides the hamlet of Chaigley and the township of Great Mitton, and the counties of York and Lancaster. A new bridge has been erected since Mr. Walkden's time, but a portion of a pier of the old bridge still stands in the stream a few yards below the new viaduct. Doubtless, when the diarist speaks of the bridge, he alludes to the inn which stood then as now, near the bridge, and which is called therefrom.

† The 11th of November.

‡ A "jack" was a measure, usually a quarter or half a pint; but larger measures were often styled a "jack." They were sometimes made of leather. They were often kept in couples, and the companion was called a "jill." Every one knows the old couplet, "Jack and Jill went up a hill," &c.

so she brought me the vessel and the yard, and I gave her a shilling, and I called for another [half jack], and paid her a penny halfpenny for it.

Sept. 12.—Old John Berry having done pointing for me, I asked him what I was indebted to him for his work. He said he had been 5 days, and he had 8d. a day, and meat; I owed him 10 groats, and 3d. for his coming to view the work, and 3d. to his son, due for riddling and blending lime. He being old, I thought 6d. a day was well. He said I might as well offer him 2d., upon which my love and he had some words about it, but in vain. So I gave him 4s., and he gave me a penny back, and promised to send me the other by my son if he would call for it.

Sept. 13.—Being for Proud Preston, I got ready, and took my little mare, and the butter for Madam Siddall, and went direct to Preston, and put in my mare at the Flying Horse,* and had a penny pot of ale. Then went to Madam Siddall, and delivered 4 pounds of butter to her maid Clarkson, and the other girl paid me for it, and 8 eggs, 1s. 6d.; so I had a design to buy cannel to-day, but had not convenience to-day to get it home, wherefore I got leave of Ben Barker † to lay it, if I bought any, in his stable. So I went into the market, and found a

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*. The Flying Horse was the premises formerly occupied by Messrs. Addison, booksellers, in Church-street. In the old rate-book for the township of Preston, to which allusion has been made, the next court to Main Sprit Weind, eastward (now Addison's-yard), is styled the Flying Horse back-side, the latter term being then usually applied to courts or passages.

2 A dyer, in Preston. In the Guild roll for 1722, the name of Benjamin Barker, dyer, appears; and in that of 1742, his name occurs as Benjamin Barker, late dyer, now tide-waiter. We do not find Benjamin's name in the rate-book for 1732, but John Barker is assessed for a dychouse on the south side of Friars' Weind. According to the old rate book, Friars' Wiend was the street now called Bridge-street, and which led from Friargate to the old Friary, the site of which is now occupied by Mr. Stevenson's foundry. Dr. Kuerden, in his Description of Preston, written in the seventeenth century, described the "little short street or alley" passing from the present Lord-street to Friargate, and now called "Anchor Wiend," as "Fryers' Weend." It was not called so, however, in Mr. Walkden's time, and we are inclined to think the doctor is in error.

cart with cannel in,* about the quantity I would buy. So I asked him what measure he had in his cart. He said 8 baskets, or 8 hundredweight. I asked his price; he said 5s. 4d. I bid him 5s. He consented that I should have it; so we went to Ben Barker's with it, and I paid the man 5s. for it, and Ben's daughter helped me into the stable with it, and I gave her a penny. So I came to the Flying Horse, and got a pennyworth of ale again, and paid for it, and went into the New Shambles,† and offered to pay Thomas Morton for a cow belly and feet we had of him the last spring, but he said he would give them me. So I bought a hough and marrow bone of him, at 1s., and he gave me a treat at the Cross Keys.‡ Then I went into the market, and bought half a bushel of apples, 1s. 1d.; and a piece of beef, 1s. 1d.; and a pair of shoes for my Margaret, at 2s. 1d.; and so brought all to the Flying Horse, and dined, and got a pint of ale. Then, having left my gloves at the Cross Keys, I went to see for them, but they could not be found; so I went and bought me gloves, 8d.; saddle girth buckle, 2d.; shoe buckles for Margaret, 2½d.; studs, 2d. Then bought 4 toffeys, 1d.; 20 plums, 2d. . . . Got my mare to the door, and I laid on my apples, and William Hesmondhalgh was at the door, and told me he had a bushel of apples to sell in the Flying Horse. He said he could have had 8 groats for them, but I should have them at 2s. I gave him 2s. for them, borrowed his sack, laid them on my mare, and gave the hostler a penny, and came direct home, only calling at cousin

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* From this we may assume, that at the time the diarist lived it was customary for carts with cannel to "stand the market." Probably, also, coal was a similar market commodity. The nearest cannel pit to Preston is close to Wigan.

† The Shambles leading from Church-street, which were built by Mr. Thomas Molyneux, in 1715, and were called the New Shambles to distinguish them from the Old Shambles, at the east side of the Town Hall, where previously the butchers' shops were located, and which still retain the name of Old Shambles, although no butcher has had a stall there for much more than a century.

‡ We cannot say where the Cross Keys was situated; we do not find in the rate book for 1732 any inn with that sign, but one or two innkeepers are rated without the distinctive sign of their house being mentioned.

Throop's door, had a pint of ale, which I and a friend of mine had between us.

Sep. 14, Lord's Day.—Got ready for the chapel. About the usual hour, I went down, and people not being come, I went into Walmsley's, and kindled a pipe, and had a penny pot of ale, and John Corner came to me, and said, "You must not give notice for Mr. Helm's preaching here to-day se'nnight, for he could not be informed of the conclusion in time."* . . At noon, I read a brief, even Bole-side brief.

Sept. 15. . . . Got ready for going to Preston for the cannel that I bought on Saturday. . . I, having forgotten a hough of beef at the Flying Horse,† I went thither, and got it, and the landlord and I had each a pint of ale. I paid 4d. for it. Then went to Mr. Cummeral's,‡ and bought a pair of bellows and spit boot spurs,‖ at 2s. I paid for them, came to the Flying Horse, and got the landlord to ware me three pence of corn, soap, or stavesacre;§ and, meeting with Ben Barker, I paid him 5s. that we owed him for dyeing us serges, &c., and he spent his groat, and 2d.; then I bought a cart whip, cost 10d. So I came to Ben Barker's, and son John having loaded the cannel, we came thence, and, on Ribbleton Moor, I met James Brown, to whom I gave 3s. 6d. for beef we had of him the last spring. Then we came on to Shuttleworth's smithy, where I called

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* Mr. Helm lived near Hoghton Tower, and a week was not sufficient to get information to him from Chipping in the ordinary course! They are about ten miles apart as the crow flies, and about eighteen by road.

† Mr. Walkden, having left his gloves at the Cross Keys, when the butcher "treated him," and having subsequently forgotten his beef, one is almost inclined to suspect that our worthy pastor, usually so precise, had his memory affected by the hospitality of his friend in the New Shambles.

‡ Mr. John Cumbrall, as the name is given in the guild books and in the rate book of 1732, occupied a house and shop on the east side of the Old Shambles, in Preston.

‖ Spit boots:—Heavy leather gaiters, covering the shoe and leg, and fastened by iron clasps and screws. — *Halliwell's Archaic Dictionary.*

§ This was a mixture, probably, for his horse; stavesacre is a plant of the larkspur species, and is often given medicinally to horses and dogs.

for a horse lock* that he had to repair for me, which, being done, I paid him 3d., and came on to cousin Throop's, where I called meat and drink, and hay, for myself, my son, and mares, for which I paid 6d. Then son John came the higher way, and I came the lower way, and at James Corner's I left the spit boot spurs, and came to Robert Rhodes's, Lower House, and paid him 3s. for whitening† yarn, winding, and weaving it for us.

Sept. 16.—Son John and I took our mares and cart, and went to the Tinkler-field, and fetched home the boards that I bought there last week, and John Simpson helped me to load; so I called for 3 pennyworth of Sarah Jackson's brandy, which we two supped. So I and son John came direct home, and I spent the day wholly at home in one innocent employment or another, as winding for son Thomas, and such like.

Sept. 17.—In the afternoon, son John having washed potatoes to send to Over Darwen to be sold there . . I went to Thomas Rhodes's to buy or borrow a pack-saddle.‡ I saw it, and he asked me 4s. 6d. for it. I thought it too much, so I borrowed it for a gate or two‖ till I could provide myself, and he and I reckoned about our plowing, and agreed to be straight. He, when he ended his wheat seeding, owed me two days and a half, and he came to plough my wheat grounds with his 2 mares, himself, his son, his plough, at 8 o'clock, and it was 3 when he got home; so he thought he had overpaid me, but he would be pleased if I was. So I consented it should be so.

Sept. 19.—I spent the forenoon in getting willow rods about our meadow, and in the afternoon in going to William Hesmondhalgh's with my love. He bestowed on us a basket full of winter plums

* This, we presume, would be an instrument to fasten to a horse's leg or foot to prevent it straying. In Mr. Walkden's day, Longridge fell and much of the land around it was common land; indeed, it was not enclosed until the year 1807; so that such an appendage to an animal when grazing would, no doubt, be often used.

† Bleaching.

‡ A large saddle, on which there was, behind the rider, room for a pack or for parcels.

‖ A journey or two.

and a few apples, and came with us to the new bridge,* and spent his 3d., and I a penny.

Sept. 20.—My love and son Henry went to Preston. I and son John spent the day at John Eccles's barn in lashing† wheat; we did it all, and brought it home in the chaff. Yesterday, son John went to John Barnes's . . and bought me a new pack-saddle, which he said must be 5s. 6d.

Sept. 21, Lord's Day.— . . Went direct to Newton, and was so wet, it having rained sore all the way, and I put in my mare at Edward Parkinson's, and went in, and laid off my wet coat and hat, and got a twopenny pot of ale; so Old England came in, and he called for another, and we sat and dried us; then we paid, and went into the chapel. . . [After describing the service he says]:—I dismissed the people; there were but few, viz., John Cawson and his wife, 2; a young man and woman, whose names I know not, 4; Old England and widow Rich, 6; John King and his daughter, 8; and myself, 9. Then I went into Edward Parkinson's, and dined, and had a pint of ale, and John Cawson and his wife were with me while I stayed. I paid 2d. for ale, a penny dinner, a penny tobacco, and a penny for my mare. . . Came direct home, and had fair coming till I got near the Birks;‡ then it rained, and when I got into our heys‖ a mighty shower fell, which wet me sore again.

Sept. 22.—Windowed§ my wheat the chaff out of it, but, for want of a wheat riddle, we could dress it no further; so I put it in sacks, and capped John a flail, and went with him to John Eccles's barn, and helped him to mow a few sheaves of oats, then set him to thresh wheat brots.** . . Then Thomas

* Probably a bridge over the Loud.

† Beating it against an upright flag, and shaking the loose grain previous to thrashing.

‡ Two farms on the northern slope of Longridge fell, in the township of Thornley-with-Wheatley; one called the Higher Birks and the other the Lower Birks. Perhaps at the time alluded to by the diarist there would be only one farm.

‖ Hey or heys is an enclosure. The term is often found as an affix, as in Greenheys, Rough hey, Mickle hey, &c.

§ Winnowed.

** Brots are remnants; the wheat brots would be the portion which, in thrashing, had been scattered about the barn floor.

Seed, o' th' Little Town, being ill, and fearing a fever, he sent to my love to come and blood him, which she did ; and then we went to Longridge end, and called at Mr. Eccles's shop, and bought a quartern of tobacco. Then we went to cousin Throop's, who is ill, and called to see him, and sat with him some time, and got two pints of ale, 4d. Then went to George Apol's shop, and bought a pair of shoes for son John, 3s. 6d. ; a pair for my love, 2s. 4d. ; and a pair for myself, 4s. ; but mine, we had not silver on us to do it with, and, therefore, left it to pay, and came homewards, and a shower falling caused us to call at cousin Throop's again, and get another pint of ale.

Sept. 23. — In the afternoon, I dressed the wheat out, and we had 5 Settle pecks* of the better mack,† and 5 Settle pecks of the worse, and one half, and near a Settle peck of the worst ; and I dressed the peas, and we had two Settle pecks and 2 awkendale of these.

Sept. 27.—My love and I got ready for Proud Preston, and about ten o'clock we set forward, and went direct to Preston, and put in our mares‡ at the Flying Horse, and my love went to Madam Siddall's with butter and eggs, and I went to Mr. Thomas Smart's, and paid in six briefs, . . and got a receipt. Then dined, and paid 4d., and a penny for ale ; then I bought a wheat and barley riddle, 1s. 4d. ; then I bought a hough and rack‖ of mutton, 1s. 8d. Then I bought apples, 1d. ; then I had a pint of ale, 2d. ; then I bought salt, 6d. ; then I spent with William Hesmondhalgh, William Willacy, and Charnley, 4d., and Charnley told me John Harrison, of Waddington, was broke, and all his goods seized by a judgment arrest, a week ago. I said that it's ill news to me, for I lent him £3 not a month ago ; so I and my love got our mares and goods, and I gave the ostler a penny,

* A peck, such as was the current measure at the market town of Settle, in Craven. The Rev. W. Carr, in his Craven Glossary, says "a Craven peck is half a Winchester bushel."

† Sort or kind.

‡ They appear to have had each a mare on this occasion ; somotimes they rode pillion on one.

‖ Hough, the ham ; rack, the neck.

and we came direct to Longridge end, where I called at Shuttleworth's smithy for son John's shoe buckle we left there to mend, and I paid him a penny. Then I called at Mr. Eccles's shop, and bought a quartern of tobacco, 3½d.* Then my love being at Ellen Seed's door, I called for a pennyworth of ale, and paid 1d.; so we came home, and got in about sunset, and I helped my sons to gather potatoes they had got for me, and at last supped and barbed.† P.S.—This morning, John Eccles's wife's daughter Elizabeth came into our house, and borrowed our tempse.

Sept. 28, Lord's Day.—Got ready for the chapel, and about nine o'clock I went down, and being too soon, I went into James Walmsley's and smoked a pipe, and got a penny pot of ale. . . John Eccles has had his young son Robert baptised to-day; he invited my love and me to come in a while to Thomas Rhodes's; we did so, and eat and drunk there, and smoked one pipe, and no more.

Oct. 2.—Thomas Davis having told me that Mr. Moss‡ was indisposed, and desired that I would come preach his preparation sermon to-morrow, I consented, and spent the day wholly in preparing a sermon.

Oct. 3.—Rid direct to Crossmoor to Mr. Moss's quarters, and I put in my mare there; and Mr. Moss being somewhat better, he and I walked together to Elswick;‖ the people being come, I went into the pulpit and prayed . . and preached. . . So I went with Mr. Moss, Mr. Pilkington,§

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* Tobacco was then retailed at from 10d. to 1s. 2d. a pound. A few days afterwards, Mr. Walkden records buying a quarter at 2½d. The duty was then only between 4d. and 5d. a pound. The high duty which now enhances the cost of the popular "weed" is of comparatively modern imposition.

† Shaved.

‡ Nonconformist minister at Elswick.

‖ Elswick, in the Fylde, where a Nonconformist chapel was established in 1672, by Cuthbert Harrison, the ejected Vicar of Kirkham.

§ The Rev. John Pilkington (great-uncle of W. O. Pilkington, Esq., of the Willows, Ashton), dissenting minister at Preston and Walton-le-dale. In an account of the reverend gentleman's life, in his own handwriting, now before us, he says: "In the year 1716 had an invitation to settle with the society of Protestant Dissenters assembling at Walton and Preston, which

Thomas Davis, and some others, to a little house in the town end, and got some refreshment. I paid nothing, but came back to Mr. Moss's quarters, and got my coat and mare, and came with Mr. Pilkington to the Stone Bridge, where we called, and found William Cardwell better. Mr. Pilkington prayed with him and for him, and we came thence, and at Broughton Four Lane Ends we parted each from other.

Oct. 5, Lord's Day.—Rid direct to Newton, and put in my mare at Edward Parkinson's, and got her hay; so I laid off my coat, and got a penny pot of ale. I went to chapel. . . Sermon being ended . . John Harrison, of Waddington, came to me, to whom I said: Well, I hear I am like to lose the silver that I lent you. He said, nay, the moneys shall be paid . . and I might tell Chipping people that what he had done he would stand to, and some that had been captious with him he would be captious also with them. . . Came to Radham. Laund, and dined there; then came to Chipping, and at John Wilson's I got a penny pot of ale, but neither I nor the landlady had any brass.* I left it to pay. P.S.—Yesterday night, at the Coldcoats, Alice, wife of Thomas Rogerson, of Abbot Barn, paid me this year's rent for the Broomscroft, viz., 12s.

Oct. 6.—I spent the forenoon in going to Robert Wareing's, *alias* Atkinson's, for the new boots he had made me, and received 'em; gave him for 'em my old boots and 9s. in silver, and for beverage I spent 6d. on the said Robert and myself. . . Spent the afternoon in helping son John to get up potatoes, and we got up 7 Settle pecks, beside little ones.

Oct. 7.—Spent the forenoon in helping son John thresh wheat bats at John Eccles's barn, and the

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I accepted. Soon after was ordained at Knutsford, in Cheshire." At that time there was no Nonconformist chapel in Preston, the meetings being in private houses; there was, however, a chapel in Walton-le-dale, founded by Sir Henry Hoghton, Bart. The reverend gentleman continued to minister to the two congregations until 1760; he also officiated many years as domestic chaplain to the Hoghtons.

18 Copper coin.

afternoon in going to the burial of Robert Parkinson, o' th' Coldcoats, whose corpse I saw interred on the north side and under the north aisle of forms in Chipping Church.

Oct. 8.— . . In the afternoon came Richard Brewer to me, and asked if I had anything for him from John Harrison, of Waddington. I said no; but he has promised me to come to me with it some day this week. He tried me sore to give him my word to see him paid in a twelvemonth's time. I promised him, but with reluctancy.

Oct. 10.— . . Came to James Corner's shop, and paid for welting and soling my shoes, 1s. 6d.; but he having bought veal of me, as much as came to 6d., I having since bought mutton of him that came to 5d., he owed me a penny on the flesh account, which is referred to a further reckoning.

Oct. 11.— . . Son Thomas and daughter Margaret went with butter to Madame Sudell, and son John and I got the last potatoes in our little hey, and had 12 loads of great ones beside a bushel of sets . . then we dressed the bed, and I sowed the last of my wheat, dressed the reins,* and I windowed the beans.

Oct. 12, Lord's Day.— . Got ready for chapel . and people not being come, I went into James Walmsley's, and sat till Mr. Helm† came. . . Mr. Helm came soon after. . . We got a pint of ale, and went into the chapel, and Mr. Helm prayed and read Scriptures, . . and preached. . . [After service] we went into James Walmsley's, . . and several of the people treated Mr. Helm and me. Then we got our horses, and came thence, and I bearing Mr. Helm's company to Ellen Seed's, where I spent 6d. on Mr. Helm, James Corner, and myself.

Oct. 14.—Spent the day wholly at home in helping son John to lay up great potatoes; and put 20 bushels in the first hog, and 14 bushels in the second hog, viz., 10 bushels kidneys, and 4 red potatoes; and we put 10 bushels in the third hog; in all, 11 loads.

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* Furrows.

† Mr. Helm, of Hoghton, a newly-ordained Nonconformist minister.

Oct. 16.— . . My love having an errand to the Fell end, I went with her; . . she left at Ellen Seed's three pounds of honey, at 6d. per pound; then we went on, she to Mr. Eccles's shop, and I to Thomas Seed's, where I bought a quartern of tobacco, 2½d.; sparrowbills,* 2d; a pound and a half candles, 9d.; in all, 1s. 1½d. . . Then wanting to hear some accounts what is done at Oxford, we went to cousin John Throop's, and found company by the fire. However, we saw 2 letters that came from Thomas Woodworth, who had been at Oxford since our old uncle's death, but that gave no account at all that our uncle had bequeathed anything at all to his relations in Yorkshire, but hinted that he had made a will since brother Henry's going up, to brother Henry's mind; that he was not sensible when he signed it; that brother and a gentleman that married a niece of our late aunt's were at contest about their late uncle's effect; that no proceedings could be made by brother Henry in administering the said effects till the 22nd of this October, when the Mayor of Oxford is to have a hearing of the affair in dispute. Then we set down by the fire with John Singleton, o' th' Delph,† with whom I spent 2d. Then we came thence, and the night being dark, I borrowed Ellen Seed's lanthorn and candle, and came home direct, and got in about 10 o'clock.

Oct. 17.—Took Ellen Seed's lanthorn in my hand, and went to James Corner's, where I, having two pair of old boots, I ordered him to cut the one pair into clock‡ over side, and the feet to be me slippers, and he cut off the feet, and took down the heels, and he wanted nails to drive into the heels to hold 'em close; so I went to Ellen Seed's, and restored the lanthorn, and got a penny pot of ale, and William Seed and I concluded to let the repair of our shippon be till Monday now se'nnight, so I went to Thomas Seed's shop, and bought a

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* Sparables; small nails used by shoemakers.

† The stone quarry at Longridge.

‡ We presume these would be for leggings. Ornamental work on the sides of shoes and stockings is often styled clock work.

pennyworth of lat nails,* and brought to James Corner, who drove several of 'em into the heels of the old boot feet; then I went to see old Elizabeth Seed, who I found had been ill all night. I prayed with her; then came to James Corner's shop, and took the boot feet and nails thence, and came direct home, and got some food. Then spent the day wholly at home, in my closet and family. In the evening, Brother John Miller came to lodge † with us, and gave an historical account of the whole affair, viz.: Brother Henry Woodworth having been very officious‡ and serviceable to his uncle Woodworth to his great satisfaction, he, the said uncle, to requite his kindness, offered to give to the said Henry several valuable goods that were in his dwelling-house, which goods and house, he, the said uncle Woodworth, had given by his last will to one Mr. and Mrs. Frye, leaving him, the said Frye, joint executor of the will, with him, the said Henry Woodworth, which goods Henry Woodworth durst not receive, but went to one counsellor Wright for advice, to whom he gave one guinea. The counsellor advised the said Henry, by no means, to accept of any such gifts, it being unsafe, but to get the will renewed, and the old one abrogated; in which new will the uncle might freely give, and he safely receive, what goods he, the said uncle, pleased to invest him with; that, accordingly, the uncle altered his will, gave the said dwelling-house, with some certain goods, specified by name, to the aforesaid Mrs. Frye and her heirs; and all besides in the house, and all he had in the world else, he gave to the said Henry Woodworth, leaving no legacies to any other relations whatsoever; and made the said Henry Woodworth sole executor of that his last will and testament, and charging him to keep it a secret till he, the uncle, was dead; which uncle,

* Nails for laths.

† Mr. Walkden uses the word lodge when alluding to a person staying with him a night or so; now, the term is generally applied to a permanent or lengthened sojourn.

‡ Walker gives, as the meaning of this word, "kind, doing good offices; over-forward." Mr. Walkden uses the word in its former sense, in which, however, it is not now current; the present conventional use of the word is only in the latter sense.

dying soon after, the above said Frye and his wife, supposing the house and all in it was theirs, came and said they would lodge in the house that night; the wife declined it, saying they would leave the house to the care of George, her brother, and the old woman that had been uncle's housekeeper, upon which brother Henry read this last will, which deprived them of the main substance in the said house, and of his executor's office, with the advantages annexed to it. He, the said Frye, fell into a great passion, calling the said Henry all but his proper name, and kept the said Henry in such trouble during the time the dead corpse lay in the house, and guarding him so strict, that he could converse with no man, which caused him to be even so confounded in mind, that when the corpse was carried into the church to be interred, he, the said Henry, went into the church with his hat on, and knew it not. The burial being over, Frye and Mary his wife came to the house again, and used both threats and entreaty with the said Henry to prevail with him to destroy the said will and let the former stand; they said they would give him one hundred pounds to do it, and if he would not they would leave him little to take into Yorkshire. One Mr. Clark and some others, advised my brother not to consent to 'em in the least, which caused Henry to be immovable, at which they all raged, and George [Frye] threatened Henry's life, and the man that had the will they assaulted so furiously to destroy it, that he was forced to fly, and did but escape with difficulty. Brother Henry, seeing them thus violent and outrageous, and beginning to think even his life to be in danger if he stayed all night in the house, resolved to make his escape out, and rose up, and said to this effect, viz.: "The main substance in the house, by right, is mine. I ought to have quiet possession here while I can conveniently remove and dispose thereof; but since I cannot, I charge you that all in the house be found as I leave it, as you answer on your peril; so fled and got him out; choosing rather to lodge in the street all night than be harassed in the house as he had been. It was late, and Frye and his adherents made an uproar

to the degree that the mobs were incensed, and got into a body, which caused, that when brother Henry went to Mr. Clarke's door, and knocked for admission, they not knowing who it was, and supposing him to be some of the mob, they opened not to him, so that he was forced to wander in the streets all night till 6 a clock in the morning, at which hour he went to one Madam Stafford's and Mr. Brookes's, where he got in, and has remained ever since, yet not without molestation from his adversaries; for when he, the said Henry, offered the will to probate, he found that Frye had rid to London, and put in a cavit* against it, so that he could not get it proved. That the said Henry finding that, he took out a citation against the said Frye, requiring him to produce his reasons why he has put in his cavit, which reasons are to be produced, and the case in dispute considered on the 25th October, 1729, in the Commissary's Court, at Oxford. That John and Thomas Woodworth had come up to Oxford, and had slandered and abused the said Henry Woodward to Mr. Frye, representing him as a sheep stealer and a rogue in grain, and they chose to side with Mr. Frye, a stranger and professed adversary to the interest of the Woodworths, than to hold to Henry, though their own natural flesh and blood." He [John Miller, the diarist's visitor] having ended his discourse, we supped, and I prayed in my family, and retired into my lodging room.

Oct. 18.— . . Brother Miller, being to enquire after the effects of one old John Miller, a travelling Scot, who died a few weeks ago, at one Widow Hall's, in Shire-lane, near Hurst Green, and I being to preach to-morrow for Mr. Burgess,† at Darwen, and brother not knowing the way to the Shire-lane, I went with him to it, and we alighted at Widow Hall's, and had account of the old man's death and effects, thus, viz.:—That the old man was found ill in the lane on Friday, was taken in by some neighbours into the widow's; that he was paralytic, and insensible all that night; that he continued so

* A caveat. † Nonconformist minister at Darwen.

most of Saturday; that a neighbour took out of his pocket what moneys he had, and in the sight of several witnesses counted it, and found he had 10s. in silver and 1d. in brass; that on Lord's Day he was sensible, asked for his budget,* and told 'em he had silver, but whose he told not; that he desired earnestly to be at a lodging-house of his, near Great Mearley;† that they offered to procure him horse and man to conduct him thither, but he refused it on the Lord's Day, saying he would see what to-morrow would produce; that a neighbour offered him to send for a priest or vicar to him, both of which he refused, signifying to 'em that he was a Presbyterian; that on Monday he died; that the overseer and constable, one Adam Thompson, took on 'em to bury him; prized‡ what he had in goods, silver, and clothes to something above £3; that the constable procured him a handsome coffin; that he fetched the rathes‖ from Mitton, and he and the overseer, with horses, went to Mitton§ and buried him. That the constable sold his goods at the cross,** on Hurst Green, and Mr. Cottom "clarked."††

* A small bag which travellers carried with them, containing miscellaneous articles, was called a budget.

† On the lower slope of Pendle Hill, near Clitheroe.

‡ Priced, appraised, or valued.

‖ The bier. A frame extending beyond the body and wheels of a cart or waggon, to enable farmers to carry hay, straw, &c., is still called "rathes" in some parts of Lancashire and Yorkshire.

§ Hurst Green is in the parish of Mitton.

** At most places the "cross" was then the customary place for sales, and for making public announcements. The present cross at Hurst Green is a modern erection; whether on the site of the cross alluded to by Mr. Walkden we cannot say. There are, however, in the neighbourhood of Hurst Green, the bases of several ancient crosses. One cross, a very curious one, exists in its original entirety at Kemple End; an engraving of it forms a vignette in the title page of Mr. Digby's "Mores Catholici."

†† Officiated as clerk or accountant at the sale. The Mr. Cottom who "clarked" on this occasion was the schoolmaster of Hurst Green, and was the author of the songs of "Stonyhurst Buck Hunt" and "Hie away to Rossall point." Two other well-known songs, "The Burnley Haymakers" and "The Five Barred Gate," are also attributed to him. The "Stonyhurst Buck Hunt" and "The Burnley Haymakers" are published in Mr. Harland's volume of "Ballads and Songs of Lancashire." We believe this Mr. Cottom was father of Mr. Adam Cottam, a noted land-surveyor of Whalley, and a great benefactor to Whalley Church.

That the sale wrought the price, £3. That the constable had discharged the house* where he died, giving the widow 4s. for her trouble; that he had paid other funeral expenses, and at last came to account, Mr. Cottom drawing 'em up, and some silver did remain in his hand, but how much he knew not. That the constable had two keys of the old man in keeping. So we got a girl to go to Adam Thompson to desire him to come to us at the sign of the Horse, on Hurst Green, and we would send for Mr. Cottom to us thither. We went to the Nag, on Hurst Green, and enquired for Mr. Cottom. The landlord said he has loosed the school, and is gone to Ribchester fair.† However, we 'lighted, and I got dinner, for which, and a pint of ale, I paid 3d. So, it being 2 a clock, and I having to Fernhurst‡ to go, I left Brother Miller, and got my mare, and rid direct to Dutton Lee, the New Bridge,‖ &c., to Blackburn, where I called at William Holms's, and left him my razor to grind, ordering him to have it ready done by Monday noon; so went on to Fernhurst, and put my mare into the hands of the servant man. So went in, found all well, and set in the house and parlour till supper was ready. Then supped, and at last I read Scripture, and we sung part of a psalm, and I prayed in the family.

Oct. 19, Lord's Day. — So we got ready for Darwen chapel, and, betwixt nine and ten a clock, I and the family set forward, and rid to Richard Smalley's, where I put in my mare, and went to the chapel. . . At noon, I went to Holden's, and got some refreshment; then went to chapel again. [Having dismissed the congregation in the after-

* Defrayed the charges at the house.

† Ribchester Fair is not now held. It was discontinued about a dozen years ago.

‡ Fearnhurst, at Lower Dawen.

‖ The Bridge Inn; the public house, near the Ribchester Bridge, though it has the sign of the "De Tabley Arms," is usually yet styled "the bridge." The present bridge over the Ribble, between the townships of Clayton-le-dale and Ribchester, is the third which has been erected. When the first was erected we cannot say. It was about 60 yards below the site of the present bridge; about the year 1669 it was replaced by another bridge, about 20 yards lower down the river, which, in the year 1772, was washed down by a flood, after the thaw of a great frost. The present bridge was erected in 1774.

noon] I got my mare and went to Mr. Burgess's, and dined there . . went direct to Fernhurst.

Oct. 20.— . . Was for coming homeward, but my mare could not be found in any stable or field about the house. At last we found her saddled and put in a shippon, so I got her, and came thence to Thomas Entwistle's. . . I saw William Entwistle there, who told me that he had not sold all my potatoes yet, only as many as came to 2s. 7d., which he gave me, saying he had only sold 4 pounds a penny as yet. I bid him sell half a pound at the pennyworth above the badgers. So I prayed for and with Thomas and Ralph Entwistle; then, it being late, I got my mare, and came to Blackburn, where, at the Moor end,* I bought two pennyworth of gingerbread; then came to William Holms's shop, got my razor, gave him 6d., and he gave me back 4d.; so thought I had my razor safe in my pocket, so I came thence direct home, only I called at the New Bridge, and got a penny pot of ale, and at Ribchester I stopt while I gave a man a letter. . . Being got home, I laid off my wet coat and boots, and had all in my pockets but my razor. It I found not, nor can I tell how, where, or when I lost it. I supped soon after I got in.

Oct. 21.—So spent the forenoon in laying my potato sets, and little ones, and I laid up 17 half bushels of sets in one hog, and 6 half bushels of little ones in another. At noon, John Harrison's son came with a riding coat and boots to be for the payment of Richard Brewer, and said his father valued 'em at 16s.; and a horse to be for to pay me for the sum of £2 18 10d. that he borrowed of me, and would have me go to Henry Charnley's to take the horse at his value.† I was not willing, but sent a message to Charnley to desire him to meet me at Throop's with the horse, and I went to Throop's, and got John Strickleton with me; Charnley came, and the horse and the lad, and John Strickleton, and Henry Charnley viewed the horse, with packsaddle and woontak,‡ at £2 10s.;

* The Moor end is at the north east side of Blackburn.

† Valuation.

‡ Woontak, wombtack, or tie; a tie or band that fastened the saddle round the horse's belly.

and if John Harrison would bring me £2 5s. betwixt and Christmas* he should have the horse and geers with him again, and that £2 5s. should be to me instead of £2 10s. of the silver he had by loan of me. So I took the horse, saddle, and woontak on these terms, and I paid 1s. of the shot, and Charnley and Strickleton paid each 3d.; so we parted, and I brought the horse home with me.

Oct. 22.— . . In the afternoon, I went to the funeral of Thomas Seed, o' th' Little Town. I went from home about 2 a clock, and waited at the house till the corpse was carried out to the bier; then attended 'em to Chipping, and saw him laid in earth in Chipping churchyard.

Oct. 23.—So sent son John with my horse and great mare to the coalpit, and I spent the forenoon at home. In the afternoon, I went with John Eccles to Alice Slater's sale, a widow, in Whittingham, thinking to buy a calf, and nothing else; but seeing what they were selling, going off at low prices as I thought, and people but slack at bidding, I bid at some things, as at a pair of hemp trease, backband, and hames, 8½d.; I had 'em. For a wood seed hopper and a pair of trappings I bid 5½d.; I had 'em. For a Jersey wheel† to wind spoyles on I bid 10d.; I had it. For a coal cart, oak chest ‡ and most else oak, with a good pair of wheels, great axle-tree pins, the wheels but 2 years old, and not hard run, I bid to £3 0s. 6d.; which was all I wanted; sum total, £3 2s. 6d. I bid £1 2s. at a spinck calf, but John Strickland, *alias* Strickleton, bid the other 6d., and had it, and he gave 6d. to the crier; ‖ so I signed a bill to Alice Slater for the £3 2s. 6d. I had weared.§ Mr. Bilsburrough being clerk for writing, which I paid 4d.; so John Eccles and I came home, bringing the wheel and stock with us, and son John came home from the coalpit soon after I got in, and I took off the coals, and we supped, and James Harrison came and set down his cesses** he had paid for his land-

* A common Lancashire phrase, meaning "betwixt *now* and Christmas."

† A spinning wheel.

‡ The chest or body of the cart was of oak.

‖ The auctioneer. § Expended. ** Taxes.

lord of late, and he sat till 10 a clock. So my love, being at John Eccles's, getting him to clog Henry a pair of clogs, I went to him, and sat till the clogs were done, and I paid him 2½d. for doing them.

Oct. 24.—It being preparation day at Hesketh-lane, I sent John with the great mare to Knawsley for a load of lime, and son Thomas went home with his work, viz., two pieces, on my little mare, and I got ready for chapel; and about ten o'clock I set forwards, and went direct to James Walmsley's with my love, and got a penny pint of ale and a quarter of tobacco, and I paid, and went into the chapel, and prayed. . . I dismissed the people; so I examined James Walmsley what wine he had, and ordered him to fetch it and let me see; he went for it, and my love and I went into Walmsley's and waited for him. He came back and told me that his house-fellow* was gone out, and the door was locked; he could not get to it. We thought we must have a pint more from Preston, so I called and paid for a pint of ale, and came with my love direct home; then spent the evening in my house and near it. At last, James Corner came with a pair of clog over-leathers for my Ann, and he said he must have 8d. for cutting and fasting† together three little pair of over-leathers, viz., one for Margaret, and one for Henry, and one for Ann. I thought it too much; however, I paid him not, but gave him a note of the day when he and I last accounted,‡ which was Oct. the 7th, 1728, that he might know what he had to demand of William Hesmondhalgh for arrears of payments to the minister at Hesketh-lane chapel.

Oct. 25.—Spent the day wholly at home, and son John fetched the cart and wheels home that I bought of Alice Slater, on Thursday last, and fetched some stones with it to repair our shippon walls with; then we scraped and washed the wheels and cart, and reared 'em up in John Eccles's barn; then came to dinner, and I found the clerk of Chipping, and he said Mr. Clarkson[10] had sent him

* Wife. † Fastening. ‡ Balanced or settled.

[10] The Rev. Thomas Clarkson, vicar of Chipping from August, 1721, to his death, in May, 1738. He was also rector of Heysham, in this county, from 1735 to his death.

to enquire what children I had baptised within his parish since 1726. I gave him account of 5, viz., one of Richard Parkinson's, 2 of Ralph Ellison's, one of mine own, and one of John Bleasdall's, o' th' Lower Core, but I forgot James Procter one.

. . Son Thomas came well from Preston; brought a pint of claret,* a penny loaf,† and 2 pennyworth of fresh herrings a leven 2d.;‡ in all, 1s. 5d. in brass, which he gave me. We supped, and I barbed me.

Oct. 26, Lord's Day.—Got ready for the chapel, and about nine a clock or soon after I set forward, and went direct to James Walmsley's, and found Thomas Walmsley there, and gave him the pint of wine and wheat loaf, and got a penny pot of ale.

. . [After service] John Willisee came to me, and said Randle Alston had some scruples about gossips‖ in baptism; and having a child to baptise he desired to know if I would baptise his child. I bid him to tell Randle that I would see him and

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* Wine for the sacrament.

† A manchet, or small wheaten loaf, for the sacrament.

‡ Eleven for twopence.

‖ Sponsors. Pepys, in his Diary, under date May 20, 1666, says:—"After dinner, my wife . . by coach to Greenwich, to be *gossip* to Mrs. Daniel's child." Archbishop Trench, in his "English Past and Present," says: "I have myself heard this name given by our Hampshire peasantry to the sponsors in baptism, the godfathers and godmothers. I do not say that it is a usual word; but it is occasionally employed, and well understood. This is a perfectly correct employment of 'gossip,' in fact its proper and original one, and involves moreover a very curious record of past beliefs. 'Gossip,' or 'gossib,' as Chaucer spelt it, is a compound word, made up of the name of 'God,' and of an old Anglo-Saxon word, 'sib,' still alive in Scotland, as all readers of Walter Scott will remember, and in some parts of England, and which means, akin; they were said to be 'sib' who are related to one another. But why, you must ask, was the name given to sponsors? Out of this reason;—in the middle ages it was the prevailing belief (and the Romish Church still affirms it), that those who stood as sponsors to the same child, besides contracting spiritual obligations on behalf of that child, also contracted spiritual affinity one with another; they became *sib*, or akin, in *God;* and thus 'gossips;' hence 'gossipred,' an old word, exactly analagous to 'kindred.' Out of this faith the Roman Catholic Church will not allow (unless indeed by dispensations procured for money), those who have stood as sponsors to the same child, afterwards to contract marriage with one another, affirming them too nearly related for this to be lawful."

discourse him on that head before I would do it, and I would see him to-night if I could. So I proceeded to administer the Lord's Supper, and, while the usual collection was going on, I and the people sang 2 verses of the 103rd Psalm, the 17th and 18th verses; so gave notice for the thanksgiving day on Wednesday next, and I dismissed the people; so I went into James Walmsley's. John Parkinson and I counted the collection money, which was exact 2s. 6d.; and I called for a quart of ale for James Corner, Thomas Walmsley, my love, and myself; and I paid Thomas Walmsley 1s. for opening the doors and dressing linen. So I paid 4d. for the ale, and came home.

Oct. 27.—So Randle Alston came to me about baptising of his child. I asked him his reason for it. He said he scrupled the use of godfathers and godmothers in baptism, and what was not of faith was sin, and therefore he desired me to baptise it. I said it's not usual for one party to baptise the children of those who were of another persuasion; if he would come to the chapel I should be freer to do it; he rather scrupled coming to the chapel. I said I heard that he had some private end in asking me to baptise the child—to save charges and trouble. He said he did not regard that now any more than he had done at the baptism of other of his children. It was sureties in baptism that he did not believe in, nor did he think it was any one's duty but the parents' to undertake the charge. I said if that was his judgment, and if he would undertake to train up the child in the fear of God, according to the Holy Scripture, and if he sincerely desired me to baptise the child I was willing to do it. So I said I would come to-day, about noon, to his house, and baptise it, but I would have him to ask . . one or two to be present, and he said he would, and went his way. . . I got ready to go to Randle Alston's . . in going I called at Thomas Smith's to see if he could thack* for me. . . Being got to Rowland Alston's . . I baptised Raynald's† daughter, calling her name Jane; then

* Thatch. † Sometimes he calls him "Rowland," and sometimes "Raynald," "Ranald," and "Randle."

we dined, and I sat awhile, and having smoked a pipe I came direct home. . . My great mare getting into Robert Seed's field, I repaired the fence. P.S.—To-day we set son Henry out to school to Mr. Nabb.

Oct. 28.—I and my love . . went to Ellen Seed's, and my love did her errand there, viz., she bought a quart of aliger, and I called for a pint of ale and a pennyworth of gingerbread for myself, my love, and my daughter Catherine, and paid for it. . . Then we went to cousin Throop's, and she did her errand, told it at least, but they could not serve her. So aunt Dorothy Woodworth being there, I asked her what news from Oxford.* She said she would tell me all before I went, for she had the whole matter in print; but Throop's wife, I think, cautioned her against it; for, though I called for a pint of ale for her and me, yet she told no more.† . . So we came to James Seed's, and asked him to come lay me wood in our shippon [illegible] to as soon as he could. I went, and my love, to see where Seed heifer‖ was that is near calving . . and seeing her like for calving before morning, we brought her up, and sealed§ her. . . . I retired into my lodging room, and commended my all to God, and lay down, and fell asleep; but my love minded the heifer, and, ere I had slept an hour, she came and wakened me, saying the heifer faris** of calving. . . [Then follows a particular and detailed account of the birth of a calf, and the diarist's foddering and milking the heifer.]

Oct. 29.— . . Helped Thomas Corner to saddle for the coalpit, and set him forwards with my 2 mares and horse, ordering him to leave one load at the old dame's†† for my daughters Mary

* Respecting the death, &c., of his uncle, John Woodworth.

† The diarist appears to have thought the old lady was not behaving well in not telling him the news though drinking his ale.

‡ The wooden stakes to which cows are fastened in a shippon.

‖ Seed's heifer; a heifer bought from some Mr. Seed.

§ Tied, or fastened her up. The word is still commonly used in Lancashire in the same sense.

** Was near calving; showed symptoms of calving.

†† Schoolmistress.

and Ann to warm 'em by this winter, and bring the other home. I went with him below William Morrice's, and opened him the yates.* Then came home, and foddered Seed heifer . . and dressed the shippon, and then came in and put on Ann and Mary clothes; then helped my love to water the heifer . . So went with some beest† to Thomas Rhodes's, and when I came back I got ready for the thanksgiviug day. After communion at the chapel, and, being ready, I and my love walked to James Walmsley's, and restored their tongs that we borrowed when we came to brew at Ambrose House against our flitting;‡ and, one side of 'em being broken, I gave young James Walmsley a halfpenny in his hand, and sent him with 'em to Cottam's smithy to piece. So we went into chapel, and, people being come, I laid open the nature of the duty, and prayed for a blessing. . . And I dismissed the people, and I promised Jennett Parkinson to come to the Coldcoats on Friday next. Then I, wanting aliger and tobacco at James Walmsley's, we went in and got a pint of ale, a quart of aliger, and half a pound of tobacco. I paid 1s. for all, and we brought the aliger with us, and came direct home, and found Thomas Corner come from the coalpit. It was near two o'clock when we got in, and we dined; and, Thomas having had a shilling of me, he gave me 3d., and I gave him 2d. for his wages; and we unsaddled the mares and horse, and the lad went home, promising to come again to-morrow, at night, to go to Eccleshill coalpits for me on Friday next; and I windowed barley till night, then foddered and watered our Seed heifer, and helped my love to serve the calf; then supped, and put my little ones to bed.

Oct. 30.— Spent the day wholly at home in winnowing my barley, and I measured a windle and an awkendale for going to the malt-kilns, and near an awkendale and a half, second sort, for bread, and two awkendales light swine corn.

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* Gates.

† The first milk given by a cow after calving, and which is of a rich quality, is called "beest."

‡ Removing.

Oct. 31.— . . John Corner being gone to the coalpit with my horse and little mare, William Birch came to work for me, and I set him to repair my shippon wall, and, when it was done, I ordered him to thresh oats; and, about a 12 a clock, I got my great mare, and went to the Coldcoats and found Ann Park there arguing with Jennet Parkinson about an old horse that she had bought at Jennet's sale, which she would have had Jennet to take again, but I found would not. So she paid 16s. 6d. for him, and took him with her, and I sat discoursing with Jennet till near night; then prayed with her and for her. Then, having given notice at Newton for Robert Parkinson's funeral, we concluded these words should be the funeral text— "Having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ, which is far better."*

Nov. 1.— . . Son Henry and I went direct to Preston, and brought the barley to Mr. John Eccleston's malt-kilns,† and set it down, he promising to empty my sacks and measure the corn betwixt and 2 o'clock. So we put our horse up and mare at the Flying Horse, and then I brought 4 pounds of butter to Madame Sudal's, and she paid me 1s. 4d., and we dined with her. So we went to the whipmaker's, and asked him to mend my old hand whip. He said it was not worth it; he could but loop it and put a lash to it, but he would exchange with me betwixt it and a pieced one at a groat. I bid him 3d., and he accepted it; and I paid him, and told him how my whip with the common handle was broke, and wished him to call for it at the Flying Horse at some time, and put me a new fin to the top of it. He said he would. So we came to the Market-place, and I offered to buy Henry a pair of buckles,‡ but saw none that pleased me; so went round and bought him a pair of Mr. Cum-

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* Phil. I., 23.

† Mr. John Eccleston was a maltster, in Preston, and he had kilns on the north side of St. John's Wiend, as Lord-street was then called, and on the east side of Main Sprit Wiend.

‡ It was market day, and buckles would be among the articles sold at the stalls in the Market-place.

merah,* at 3d.; then he wanted a trumpet, I bought him one at a penny. So bought 2 thornbacks reay fishes, at 3½d; and 2 tonyhyes,† at 1d. So we brought all to the Flying Horse, and then went to fetch our sacks from the malt-kilns, and with 'em brought the maltmaker, Thomas Scolfield, to the Flying Horse, and spent 4d. on him. I paid for the quart of ale, and we got our horse and mare and other goods, and came direct home.

Nov. 2, Lord's Day.— . . Got my great mare, and rid direct to Newton, and put in the mare at Edward Parkinson's, and got her hay; so warmed me, and got a pint of ale. Then to chapel. . . Gave notice for service here on Wednesday next, it being the 5th of November,‡ and for Robert Parkinson's funeral to be preached to-day se'nnight, at Chipping chapel. Then dismissed the people, and went into Edward Parkinson's, and got a pint of ale, a toast, and a pipe of tobacco. I smoked, and paid 3d for all.

Nov. 4.—Birch thrashed for me . . then windowed, and went with 2 loads of oats to the lime-kilns.‖ He having done thrashing for me, I asked him what he must have a day; he said 4d.

Nov. 5.— . . Went direct to Newton . . went into Edward Parkinson's, and got a pint of ale, and warmed me; then went to chapel, and prayed . . then dismissed the people; and Mrs. Salisbury came to me, and gave me 2s 6d., and desired my prayers; and Jane Parson came to me, and told me how bad health she had had . . and desired me to pray for her, that it might be sanctified to the highest ends. I promised both to pray for 'em, and I parted . . and I got a pint of ale and a toast, and was for coming home, but a mighty rain began to fall, with thunder, which caused me to call for another pint . . I paid the landlady 6d. for meat, drink, and hay; the smith 9d. for shoeing and removing§ my mare.

* Mr. Cumbrall. † Tonyhies are a kind of fish.

‡ It would appear that the anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot was kept up by the diarist. There were no warmer friends of the reigning dynasty and no more cordial opponents of the Stuart race and the Church of Rome than the early Protestant dissenters.

‖ Oats were sent to the lime-kilns to dry.

§ Removing the shoes of the mare.

Nov. 7.—Birch being at Lum mill, shilling* our oats, I went to him with my two mares, and took him something to eat. He had done shilling, and had taken up the most of the groats, and there was near 13 Settle pecks, with the mooter.† I ordered him to get as many groats cut up as would be half an awkendale when cut, and to get the wheat grounded after our groats, but not to sift it, and to bring it home with him; to put the dust in the bottom of the single sack, the meal seeds next it, and the after-shilling on the top of all, and to put the meal in the double sack and the poke.‡ And so I came direct home. . . At 3 a clock came William Birch from the mill, and brought home the meal, wheat, and other things, according to order, and we unloaded, and he dined; and I reckoned, and he stopped in the 14d. that he owed me about potato ground, and I paid him the rest. So we are clear from the beginning of the world to this day.‖

* A north of England term for "shelling."

† The term "moutre" is, in Lancashire, applied to cotton dishonestly come by, and the act 17 George III., which punishes persons guilty of purloining or embezzling goods, is locally termed the "Moutre Act," although the word never occurs in it. "Multure," pronounced "mooter," is a well-known legal expression in Scotland, signifying the fee taken in kind at a mill, and such appears to be the sense in which the diarist used it.

‡ A small sack.

‖ A curious phrase, and undoubtedly an expressive one. It would appear to be a favourite one with the diarist; for in the interesting collection of autographs, which includes those of early Nonconformist pastors, belonging to our worthy townsman, the Rev. R. Slate, there is a receipt by the diarist in the following terms:—

Received ye 23d of Aprill, 1728, of ye Trustees of ye New Chappel in Hesketh Lane, in ye Parish of Chipping, and county of Lancaster, who are also trustees and mannagers of ye late James Bolton's charity, given by his last Will and Testament Towards ye maintenance of a Protestant Dissenting Ministry at ye new chappel aforesaid, the full and intire sum of one pound of good and Lawfull moneys of Great Brittain, by the hands of John Parkinson, o' th' Blackhall in Chipping, due to me February ye 2d 172¾. I say, Received by me in full of all demands from ye beginning of ye world to ye said 2d of February last past. As witness my hand

Ll.	s.	d.
01	00	00

PETER WALKDEN,
Minister at Hesketh
Lane Chappell.

Nov. 8.—So, being for Proud Preston, with Madam Sudal's butter, I got my two mares, and set the saddle on the little one for a load, and the hackney saddle* on the great one for to ride on; and I filled the coal sack with coals for Henry to warm him by at the school, and took 'em to Mr. Nabb's schoolhouse, and we got 'em taken off, and son Henry brought the mare home again, and I went to Preston, and put in my mare at the Flying Horse, and got a penny pot of ale; then went to Madam Sudal's, and delivered the butter, and she gave me 1s. 4d. So I came back, and bought 2 pennyworth of fresh herrings, and had a 11 for 2d; then met with Thomas Davis and his sister Mary, who took me down to their host-house,† and gave me a treat; then bought twelve flooks, cost 1d; and a houghle,‡ at 10d. So came to my mare, and we had 3 2-penny pots of ale with the landlord, and I asked John Greenwood ‖ to buy me the newspapers weekly. He said he would; and I got my mare, and came direct to Longridge End, where, meeting with George Boardman, I and he 'light at Ellen Seed's, and we got each a pint of ale; I paid 2d., and he the rest; and I came home, and got in about five a clock.

Nov. 11.— . . So got ready for Garstang fair, and, having a design to offer my little mare to sale, I set son Henry on her, and we rid to Ranald Auston's, and, calling at the door, I told him that I had promised to come to-day to return thanks for his wife's safe recovery from childbed, but I could not, because I had business to Garstang, which I could not avoid . . so we went direct to Garstang, and put in our mares at Joseph Brown's, and, meeting with Brother John Miller, I went in with him and warmed me, and we had each a pint of ale. He, being gone out, I paid for both pints, viz., 4d.; and I paid Joseph Brown for the half windle of barley that my son John fetched thence in July

* A riding saddle.

† Alehouse; according to Pegge, an alehouse for the reception of lodgers. Thomas Davis's "host-house" was in Friargate, outside the bars.

‡ A shank of beef.

‖ John Greenwood was the landlord of the Flying Horse public-house.

last past. I paid him 7s. for it. It would have been 7s. 4d. had I given 3s. 8d. a peck, as I did for what I bought of him myself, but he took 7s., and gave my Henry a penny. So I went and shewed my little mare, and had 2 guineas bid for her if I would bring her up to Mr. Bolton's, but I thought it too little. So I stood most of the fair, but had no more offer; so I put her into the croft to my other mare, and went down town, and had a pint of ale with Richard Caiton at Willacee's. Then went to have bought onions, but found none to sell. I then bought 4 quarts of nuts, at 2½d., a pennyworth of gingerbread, and pair of gloves for son Henry. So came to Joseph Brown's, and set waiting for Brother Miller and his brother Joseph Miller, with whom I stayed while we had two pints of ale, which brother Miller paid for; so I got my mares and son Henry, and went to Brother Miller's to lodge . . and found the family in tolerable health; and brother and Joseph Miller came soon after us, and I set in the family till supper was ready; then supped, and then sat discoursing by the fire till near 10 o'clock of one thing or other, and, among the rest, of Brother Henry Woodworth, at Oxford. He showed me a letter from Brother Henry Woodworth, dated Oct. the 26th, 1729, which run to this effect, viz :—"After my love remembered to you, hoping you got well home, they come to satisfy you that I have overcome all my enemies in Oxford, and am put in possession of all, and have proved my uncle's will, and hope to side* my affairs here in a very little time, that I may come keeping Christmas at Lady Green's.† But I have moneys to get in and to pay, which holds me in employ at present. I have sent a letter to my mother, so you need not give yourself the trouble of going over, which is all at present from your affectionate brother,

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* Settle, finish.

† Lady Green was the only daughter and heiress of Richard Hampson, of Bury and Liverpool, merchant, and enjoyed considerable property under his will. She married Sir Godfrey Green, a wealthy sugar baker, in Dublin. She had sons and daughters. In 1748 she is styled "the lady of Sir Godfrey Green," but in 1749 she is called Lady Crofton; whence the latter title we cannot say.

Henry Woodworth. P.S.—I was put in possession yesterday."

Nov. 12.—Set at Brother Miller's while near noon, the day being cold and stormy. It being some better, I got my son Henry on the little mare, and I on the other, and came homewards, but the child was so cold and the weather so bitter he could not ride himself; so, at Harrass end,* I took him behind me, and led the little mare, and we came direct to Ranald Auston's, where we called, and I assisted the wife and family in returning praise to God for the mercy of safe recovery from child-birth. Then we came home direct.

Nov. 13.—Thomas Smith and Edmund Eccles came to thack, and I set 'em to thack our swine-cote, and I was sometimes beside 'em, and sometimes getting and sharpening spelks† for 'em.

Nov. 14.—The morning was wet, and no thackers came, and I minded my goods . . and went with my daughters to school.

Nov. 15.—Thomas Smith and Edmund Eccles came to thack, but it fell to raining, so I set 'em to thresh, and bid 'em thack when it was fair. . . My love, having butter to go with to Preston, and she being throng, and the day wet, I got my great mare, rid with it to Preston, and put in my mare at the Flying Horse, and warmed me, and had a penny pot of ale; then went to Madam Sudal's with the butter, and got pay for it; then went into the Market-place, and bought fish, 2d.; onions, 3d. So came to the Flying Horse, and they, being just for dinner, I set and dined with 3 soldiers and a paper maker that comes from near Radcliffe Bridge, who, when dinner was over, set with me while we smoked each a pipe and had each 2d. in ale. This man told me that Mr. Joseph Heywood,‡ minister at Stand of Pil-

* Harras End, which is in the township of Nether Wyersdale, is the extreme western corner of the Bleasdale range of fells; the road from Chipping to Lancaster passes over Harras End.

† A splinter or narrow piece of wood used to keep down the straw in thatching.

‡ The Rev. Joseph Heywood was admitted a student in Mr. Frankland's Academy, at Rathmell, Feb. 10, 1691. He was minister at Stand in 1715. He died there, and was buried in November, 1729.—*Rev. R. Slate's MSS.*

kington,* was dead ; that he died on this day se'nnight, and was buried at his own chapel on Lord's Day last. So I went and bought son Henry a new grammar, cost 1s. 3d ; so came to my mare, paid for dinner, 4d. ; ale, 2d ; hay for my mare, a penny ; so got her, and what I had bought, and came direct home.

Nov. 16th, Lord's Day.—I gave my mare a little corn . . and, about 7 o'clock, I got my mare, and set forward towards Newton, and put in my mare at Edward Parkinson's, and got her hay. So warmed me, and got a pot of ale, 2d., and paid for it. So, being somewhat warmed, I went to the chapel. . . [after service] I dismissed the people. So went for my coat and mare, and got 'em, and had a pot of ale, 1d. ; and hay, 1d. The landlady could not change me a shilling, nor had I brass enough ; so I left 2d. to pay, and came direct to Broosholm,† and dined at Jonathan Claiton's . and came direct home, and put in my mare, and found she had hay ; then came in and warmed me ; and then I went and rubbed the mare, and gave her provender ; then supped ; then I watered, and bedded, and foddered up the mare.

Nov. 17.—Took my little daughters upon my mare, and carried 'em to school.

Nov. 18.—Being to preach at John Anyon's, in Skerton,‡ to-morrow, I got ready to go thither to-

* Stand is now a populous district in the township of Pilkington and parish of Prestwich-with-Oldham. It is said to have taken its name from a "stand" or tower erected in Pilkington Park, when the unfortunate family of that name owned it, whence a fine view of the surrounding country was obtained, and where the ladies of the family observed the sport of hunting on their extensive domain. As is well-known, the Pilkington family lost their large possessions through their adhesion to the fortunes of Richard the Third, at the battle of Bosworth Field. On the fall of the House of York, the Pilkingtons were despoiled of their estates, which were granted by Henry the Seventh to Lord Stanley, who was created Earl of Derby. The present earl still enjoys the Pilkington estates.

† Browsholme, an extra-parochial district in the Forest of Bowland and West-Riding of Yorkshire. Browsholme Hall is the seat of the ancient family of Parker, who long held the office of Bowbearer of the Forest of Bowland. At Browsholme is an extensive and particularly interesting collection of family pictures, ancient armour, and various articles of *vertu* illustrative of the history of the district.

‡ Near Lancaster.

night, and, about [leaf torn] a clock, I got my great mare, and set forward, and went direct to Thomas Storsacres, where I called and dined; and, being some wet, I let my coat run an hour. It rained sore, that I and Mary Storsacre got our mares, and on direct to Skerton. I put in my mare at John Anyon's, but Mary went on to John Bradforth's.

Nov. 19.—Was in the family and my lodging-room while people came to worship, which was about one a clock; then I opened the exercise with prayer, and read Scriptures, and we sung part of a psalm, and I prayed; then preached from Matt, 7, 23, 24, and finished the second discourse; then ceased, prayed, and we sung part of a psalm, and I dismissed the people. So dined; then I got my mare, and went to Baman Hall, to James Bradley's, and sat till they had supped; then I read Scriptures, and we sung part of a psalm, and I prayed in the family.

Nov. 20.—I was in the family till about a 11 a clock; then I bid farewell, and came from Baman Hall to John Anyon's, where I 'light, and set near an hour. Then I came thence into Lancaster, and, at the Custom House, near the Green Air,* I found several horse loads of onions. I asked how they sold a stone. They said 4½d., but they would not sell a single stone; so I said I would give 'em 5d. for a single stone, at which one man said he had onions at his shop in town; he would let me have a stone; so I went up to the shop, and got a stone weighed, and I paid him 5d., and he brought 'em to the Thistle and Crown, where I had put in my mare, and left 'em there; so I went to see Esther Newton, who has corrupted breasts, and prayed with her and for her. Then I paid a visit to Alexander Williamson, and Katherine, his wife; then I went with Alexander to Elizabeth Taylor's, who is ill of an ague, and prayed with her and for her; so came to Esther Newton's again; and Esther Bradley having bought and made a wallet for me to carry my onions in, I got 'em put into it, and went to the Thistle and Crown with Alexander Williamson and his wife, and Abinezer Bisbrown, and set while we

* The Green Area, Lancaster, is called by Lancaster people as if written "Air" or "Ayr."

spent 5d., we having 2 pints of ale. So I got my mare, as did Mary Storsacre, and we left Lancaster, and came direct to Thomas Storzacre's, where I 'light, and set a while; then I got my mare and onions, and came thence direct to Mrs. Aray's, and put in my mare, and got her hay; so came in, and laid off my coat, and supped; then set sometime in the family . . so retired to my lodging-room.

Nov. 21.— . . I bought of Mrs. Aray, Ainsworth's works,* fol., cost 7s. 6d; and Dr. Edwards's Veritas Redux,† at 3s. 6d.; in all, a 11s. I sold her a load of potatoes, at 4s. 6d., and paid her 3s. in silver; the other 3s. 6d. I left to pay. So I got my mare and goods, and came thence, having promised to send Mrs. Aray her potatoes on Monday or Tuesday next, direct to Robert Wareing's, *alias* Atkinson's, where, being cold, I 'light, and warmed me, and got a pint of ale; so I direct home, and found that Thomas Smith had thacked all my straw, and was gone. So I in and about home while evening.

Nov. 22.—So William Birch came to thresh, and Edmund Eccles, of the Oulerums, came and dressed me the goods; and we sent him to Preston with 4lb. of butter for Madam Sudall, and I spent the day wholly at home in my closet and about the house; and I took out a load of potatoes for Mrs. Aray, and 2 bushels and a half for our eating; in the evening came Edmund Eccles from Preston, who had done all his errands right. He brought us home 1s. 4d. for butter; told us that Thomas Morton would come about buying our calf on Tuesday next; and that there was no newspaper for me this week; and I gave him 6d. for 3 days'

* Henry Ainsworth, a noted Nonconformist theologian of the reign of Elizabeth. His principal work was "Annotations on the Pentateuch." He joined the sect, called from John Brown, its founder, "the Brownists" and with them, on account of the severity with which they were persecuted, he left England for Amsterdam.

† Thomas Edwards, a noted Presbyterian divine, who lived in the seventeenth century, and wrote with equal zeal against the Episcopalians and the Independents. When the latter party gained the ascendancy he withdrew to Holland, where he died, in 1647. His "Gangrœna" exhibits a curious picture of the religious divisions and animosities of the times in which he lived.

serving the thacker and to-day's labours; but he, wanting clogs, I let him have a new pair at 8d., and he gave me the 6d. again, and promised to go to Mrs. Aray's for me on Tuesday next; and I paid William Birch for threshing to-day 4d. Then Thomas Smith called on me, and I paid him 1s. 6d. for his two days' thacking, and my sons came home from Dent.

Nov. 23, Lord's Day.—Betwixt 9 and 10 a clock I took my great mare, and son Henry behind me, and went direct to chapel, and put my mare into the chapel-yard; and, people not being come, went with the lad into James Walmsley's, and warmed us, and had only a penny pot of ale. And was told by James and Katharine Walmsley that Henry Salisbury and William Atkinson had disagreed the week past; that Atkinson had struck Henry Salisbury; that Salisbury had procured a warrant of peace against Atkinson; that Atkinson was, by one of His Majesty's justices of the peace for this county, committed to the House of Correction, at Preston, yesterday. I said little to it, but went into chapel, and prayed [here follows a detailed account of the services]. So George Boardman and John Parkinson paid me the Martinmas quarterage; John, 2s., and George, 7s. So I and my 3 sons went with George Boardman into Walmsley's, and I gave George a small treat. We were 8 persons or 9, and I stayed while 8d. was spent, and no longer. I paid 6d. of it, and came to my mare, and came direct home.

Nov. 24.—Lent my little mare for pay to James Bleasdal, tailor, to fetch him a saddle of mutton from Proud Preston, and I sent son John with a load of potatoes to Mrs. Aray. . . Went to John Bradley's burial, and dined after I got there, and waited till the corpse were carried out towards Chipping. Then went to Chipping with 'em, and put in my mare at Thomas Sudall's, and warmed me, and spent 2d. So went to them, and was in the church before the corpse, and set while Mr. Clarkson* read the 39th Psalm, and part of the 14th of the 1st to Corinths.; and we sang 4 verses of the

* The Vicar of Chipping.

39th Psalm, and Mr. Clarkson prayed; then preached from Eccles., xii, 7. Sermon being ended, he made a short prayer, and dismissed the people. So I saw the corpse interred in the yard, beside the dial; so came to my mare, and, being cold, I spent 2d. again, and warmed me. So got my mare, and came direct home.

Nov. 25.—A brother of Thomas Morton came for our veal calf,* and told us that his brother would have us send the calf by him to Preston, and when he came to town he would give us the worth of it. We consented; and the boy killed the calf, and dined, and took it dead before him. . . My love, having an errand to George Abbott's shop and to cousin Throop's, I went with her; and, son Thomas having a scythe to pay for, he gave me 2s. 2d., and I went with it to Richard Shuttleworth, and he demanded 2s. 4d. for the scythe, and 2d. for the pole. . . So came to Mr. Nabb's school, and invited him to a small treat at cousin Throop's, and he and my love, James Houghton, and son Henry followed me shortly, and I spent 6d. on 'em, and no more; indeed, Mr. Nabb and Houghton joined at a 4th pint, but we had no more; so I came home with my love and son Henry, and the winds being high we were ill tossed, but got well home about 6 o'clock. . . P.S.—To-day, Robert Seed called on me, and said that several neighbours had a design to join and buy a fat cow, and they knew of as many as would take 3 quarters, and they wanted a fourth quarter. I said I would be willing to take half a quarter if they could find a partner for the other, and if it happened to find a person for the whole quarter, I would be easy without any at all; but, at the worst, I would subscribe to take half a quarter.

Nov. 26.—To-day, I shewed to Ann Parkinson a rough draft of a letter I had writ for her to her son, Nathaniel Parkinson, on board the *London*, at Gravesend, and transcribed it, sealed, and writ directions on it.

Nov. 28.—This morning, James Bleasdal, having on Monday last had my little mare, and, on Thursday,

* A calf fatted for killing.

had her and the horse to Preston, he came and paid me for 'em 1s. 6d.; and, James Corner, having bottomed a pair of boots for me that I brought him some weeks past, he brought 'em home, and demanded 3s. 6d. for doing 'em. I said he must throw in the 3 pair of clog over-leathers he had made me at that sum. I had no 6d.; so I gave him 3s., and left 6d. to pay. And, in the evening, Agnes, wife of John Eccles, brought in 2 pair of clogs—one pair for Margaret, and the other for Ann—and demanded 5½d. for clogging, but with all said that John, having his rent to pay to Sir Edward,* was at the want of 3s. If I could lend it he would restore it in a fortnight or 3 weeks' time, or it might go towards the barn rent. I lent her 3s., and told her it might go to pay 5d. for the clogs and 2s. 7d. towards the barn rent; and Agnes had had my little mare into Ellel 3 days, 1s. 6d; and the mare 4 single gates† to the mill, 8d.; all which I consented should go towards the barn rent. And I said I would see John, and we would account, and if I had overpaid he might clog for it. If I was short I would pay him. When she was gone, I considered what was paid towards the 5s. I am

* Sir Edward Stanley, of Bickerstaffe, fourth baronet, the owner of considerable property at Thornley, Chipping, and the neighbourhood, which he derived from his mother, Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Patten, Esq., M.P., who married Sir Thomas Stanley, third baronet. The mansion house now occupied by Mr. Rhodes, and called Thornley Hall, was formerly styled "Patten Hall," and is still often so called in the neighbourhood. Sir Edward, on the death of James, tenth Earl of Derby, in 1736, succeeded to the earldom. He was great-great-grandfather to the present Earl of Derby, who still owns the Chipping and Thornley estates, derived from Sir Edward's mother. Sir Edward was M.P. for Lancashire from 1727 to his succession to the earldom. He was also an alderman of the borough of Preston from 1731 to 1736, and served the office of Mayor in 1731-2. He gave, in 1742, to the Corporation of Preston, the massive silver punch bowl and ladle which is still regularly used on the occasions of our civic festivities; and he also presented to the town the full length portrait of George II., which was in our old Town Hall, and is now in the Exchange-rooms. Sir Edward's own portrait also forms one of the Corporation portrait gallery. He was a native of Preston, as was also his son (Lord Strange), and his grandson (the twelfth Earl of Derby). They were all born at Patten House, the mansion of the Derby family, in Church-street, Preston.

† Journeys.

to pay for the barn, and I computed it thus : 2s. 7d., then 1s. 6d., then 8d. ; in all, 4s. 9d.; so that I owe him yet 3d.

Nov. 29.—Got ready for going with my love to Proud Preston ; and, about 10 o'clock, we got our great mare, and rid direct to the Flying Horse, and put her in there, and, being wet, we spent 6d. ; and so my love went to Madam Sudal's with butter ; and so we went together to Thomas Morton's shop,* and in the way I put Ann Parkinson's letter into the post-office, and Thomas illed† our calf, but offered us no pay ; so we went into Gin Bow Entry, and inquired at one Pilkington's for a letter for Alice Parkinson, but there was none ; so we went to a shop in the little street,‡ where my love offered to buy our little daughters each a coloured cap, but she being long,‖ I left her and went to view the new horse mill,§ but found it locked up ; so came back, and went to the whipmaker's in the Fishergate, and found my cane whip mended, and gave the man 1s. for the whalebone and his labour. So came to Thomas Morton's shop again, but he was busy, and I thought looked slightly at me ; so that in grief of mind I went to another butcher, and bought a piece of beef, at 2d. a pound. We weighed it, and found it 9 pounds and a half. I paid 1s. 7d. for it ; so came to the Flying Horse, where I met with my wife, and we set at the fire with my landlord, Edmund Eccles, while a shower fell ; and we sent for Thomas Morton, who came, and gave me 7s., and said it was all that he could compute he had made of it, and he give us his labour ; only there was a breast and the head to sell. We consented that he should have them for

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* In the year 1732, Thomas Morton, butcher, was assessed at 3½d. monthly, "in the monthly rate of the poor tax, upon such persons that had neither land nor housing within the said borough [of Preston] and the liberties thereof that are assessed for their personalities."

† Found fault with it ; spoke ill of it.

‡ Probably New-street.

‖ It would appear that a lady's partiality for remaining long at a draper's or milliner's shop is not merely a modern custom.

§ This would be a mill at which a horse was the motive power. It would probably be a corn mill, for cotton mills were then unknown in Preston.

his trouble; so we got our mare, and came direct home; and I having a cold, and being not well, set little, but retired into my lodging-room.

Nov. 30, Lord's Day.—Got ready for Newton; and soon after 7 o'clock I set forward on my little mare, and rid direct to Newton; put in my mare at Edward Parkinson's, and gave her hay; so, being wet and cold, I went into the house, and got a pint of ale and a toast; and, as I warmed me, the landlord told me that old Mr. Townley, vicar of Slaidburn, was dead, on Monday last, and that the controversy at Slaidburn was all dropt;* that the parish was glad of his death, in hopes that the tithes would now fall into new hands. I paid 2d. that I left unpaid the last time I was here, and 2d. for this pot of ale. . . I came direct to Raddam Laund, and dined there; so had thought to have come home, but it raining, I altered my purpose, and determined to lodge there.

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* The Rev. Edmund Townley was rector of Slaidburn from 1690 to his death in 1729. He was a brother of Nicholas Townley, Esq., of Royle, and was born in 1652, so that he was 77 years old when he died. According to the family pedigree in Whitaker's Whalley he was buried at Burnley. The ancient family of Townley of Royle is represented by R. Townley Parker, Esq., of Cuerden, to whom the Royle estate has descended, Ann, daughter, and ultimately heiress, of Thomas Townley, Esq., having married Robert Parker, Esq., of Extwistle and Cuerden, Mayor of Preston at the guild of 1762, and grandfather of the present Mr. Parker. The Rev. Edmund Townley was a considerable benefactor to the church and school of Burnley; indeed, in consequence of his benefactions, the advowson of the church was conveyed to him. He left it to his nephew, Thomas Townley, Esq., and his great-great-grandson, Mr. Parker, now owns it. Mr. Townley left in his will specific directions as to the way the patron was to discharge his duty, and he declared it to be his "earnest request to the curates of Burnley for ever, that they will, by the grace of God, make their lives suitable to their doctrine; for nothing can bring a greater blemish to religion, and to our most truly primitive ecclesiastical church established in this kingdom than the dissolute lives of the clergy; and because when the foundation is not well laid the superstructure often suffers damage, therefore I do earnestly request the said curates that they will take great pains in catechising the youth, and that they will use such plain and easy explanations of the same as may be suited to the most ordinary capacities." Mr. Townley appears to have been of the class that wish others to do as they say and not as they do. As Dr. Whitaker remarks, "Good words, it is said, are cheap coin; but if anything in human nature were matter of wonder, who would not be astonished to hear that this man, so anxious to provide that

Dec. 2.—In the evening, son John came from the new coalpits with my two mares, and I took off the coals, and teemed* 'em. . . This evening, my love bought daughter Ann a cap, and Katherine gartering for daddling strings † . . for both which I paid 9d., and 6d. for 2 loads of coals.

Dec. 3.—Spent the day wholly at home, and most in helping son John to winnow oats. We put 16 bushels into our ark, and filled the single sack.

Dec. 6.—I got ready for Preston, and got my mares and children, and set forward, and left the children at their schools, and at Henry's school the children had barred out‡ Mr. Nabb. I gave him 2d. to spend with the master and fellow scholars, and went to Darlingtons's, and waited till son John came, and we had a pint of ale. I paid 2d. . . then went direct to Preston, and put in our mares at the Flying horse, and we had a pint of ale; and I went to the malt-kilns, and got my malt put into my sacks, and I paid Mr. Eccleston 3s. 1½d. for excise, ‖ and a 11d. for making, in all, 4s. 0½d.; so came to the Flying Horse, and spent 6d. on myself son John, and the maltmaker. Then son John bought a penny loaf, and got loaden, and came home with his load of malt; and I met with Mr. Helm §

other clergymen should perform their duty, entirely neglected a benefice of his own?" The "controversy" alluded to in the diary would appear to have been on the subject of tithes, which, when gathered in kind, were a fruitful source of unpleasantness between incumbents and parishioners. In Whitaker's History of Whalley is a curious letter to the squire of Browsholme from Mr. Townley, asking for two gallons of claret for the sacrament, not having sufficient for the purpose, some persons having, unknown to him, tapped the vessel containing the wine, and they could get no more at Lancaster.

* Unloaded or poured out from the sacks in which the coals would be brought from the pit; "teem" is a very common Lancashire word for "pour out."

† Strings to assist children to walk.

‡ Barring-out:—An ancient custom at schools, said to be still prevalent in some parts of the North of England, when the boys, a few days before the holidays, barricade the school-room from the master, and stipulate for the discipline of the next half-year. According to Dr. Johnson, Addison, in 1683, was the leader in an affair of this kind at Litchfield.—*Halliwell's Archaic Dictionary.*—In olden times "barring-out" was a custom, at our schools, on the day of election of Mayor in Preston.

‖ An excise duty was first levied on malt in 1667.

§ A Nonconformist minister. See note † page 49.

and we had each a penny pot of ale; and he told me that Mr. Seddon, of Cockey chapel,* was dead; and then I went into the market to have bought fish, but they being dear, I went to Thomas Morton's shop, and bought beef of him, cost 9d; and, meeting with Mr. Cardwell, o' th' Stone Bridge, I bought a quarter bushel of apples from him, cost 10d; so I got my mare, and some malt, and other goods I had, and having given the hostler a penny, I came direct home, leaving my 3rd newspaper at Ellen Seed's, and got in about four a clock.

Dec. 7, Lord's Day.—I got my mare and my love, and went to chapel. [After service] I, and my love, and Henry, being cold, we went into Walmsley's, and warmed us, and got a hot pint of ale; got a bottle of aliger; I paid 1d.

Dec. 8.—Sent son Thomas towards Clitheroe with my little mare to offer to sale, and ordered him, if . . he could get 50s. for her, to let her go. If he sold not, I bid him enquire if I could fest† her to winter at any place near that country, and put him 6d. in his pocket to refresh with; and I being for going to visit John Dixon, got on my boots, and having set son John to thresh oats for me, he, in pulling some sheaves out of the mow, pulled the whole shelving down. I went and mowed it up again. Then got ready, and took my mare, and went direct to John Dixon's, and found him but badly of a tertain ague‡ and fever, but he hoped he was some better. I set discoursing with him till it darkened at night, and during my stay I prayed with him and for him; so John gave me a shilling, and paid me the quarterage due on Martinmas last; and I came thence to my landlord's, where I lighted, but not long . . came direct home. Son John being gone to bed, I and my love rubbed and dressed my mare, and gave her hay.

Dec. 9.—Son John threshed, and I spent the day

* Cockey Moor, in the township of Ainsworth and parish of Bolton. There was, at an early period, a Nonconformist chapel at Cockey Moor.

† Put out to grass.

‡ The tertian ague, an ague or shaking fit that came on every third day, was anciently a common complaint in England. Improved drainage has banished the disease.

wholly at home in my closet and family. In the evening, I foddered my goods. . . Then I supped; and son Thomas came home from Clitheroe fair, and brought home with him Mr. Marsden's 1st vol. on the New Testament, by the late Mr. Matthew Henry,* and he told me that he had not sold my little mare, but had left her at William Barton's, of Standing Hey, who will let her run this winter, † and give her hay at stormy seasons, and sell her or exchange her for me if he can. He said he could have sold her for £2 10s. if he would have given day ‡ with her till midsummer, but Thomas was not willing to allow the day, and the man's security was dubious.

Dec. 10.—Son John being to Eccleshill coalpits with my mare and horse, I foddered and dressed the goods, and then washed, and prayed in my family; so spent the day wholly at home, and most in my closet. P.S.—One evening, last week, James Bleasdal sent me pay for my horse gate‖ to Preston, on Saturday was a se'nnight, by one of my sons. And, to-day, son Thomas restored me 3d. of the 6d. I gave him when he went towards Clitheroe fair; and John, my son, teemed coals at home.

Dec. 11.—James Bleasdal came and asked me to fetch him 2 pair of bedstocks from the Parsonage, in Chipping. I promised him to do so. So we went to set cart o' th' wheels, but John Eccles had so much straw before it we could not get it; so I sent John to Richard Eccles to desire the lend of his trale § to fetch 'em on. He sent it; and son John yoked the horse and mare, and went to the trale, and I went over the fields to meet him in Hesketh-lane; and I being not very well, I set and got 2 pints of ale,** and Henry Marsden, o' th' Pale,†† being

* Matthew Henry, a noted Nonconformist divine, and the son of a pious minister (Philip Henry, one of the two thousand ejected by the famous Bartholomew Act, in 1662.) was born in that eventful year, and died in 1714. Matthew Henry was the minister of the first Nonconformist chapel, in Chester. The work here alluded to, "Exposition of the Old and New Testaments," is yet highly appreciated, more particularly by Nonconformists.

† At grass. ‡ Time for payment. ‖ Horse's journey.

§ A sort of sledge or cart, much used in hilly districts.

** Two pints of ale were a somewhat strange medicine to take when not well.

†† A farm about a mile and a half southward of the village of Chipping.

there, and, seeing my brass tobacco box, he took a fancy to it, and asked me to exchange with him. I told him I was not willing to part with it; however, for a time, to please him, I mattered not if we exchanged; so he took my box, and I his; and I paid 4d.,* and son John had a pint as he came by with the bedstocks, for which I paid 2d., which James Bleasdal will repay. So I came home, and foddered my goods, and William Eccles told us that Mrs. Town . . is dead . . that she had left our shifting unfinished. . . P.S.—Son John said that James Bleasdal paid not for the bedstocks taking, which I expect a shilling for, and 2d. for the pint of ale; in all, 1s. 2d.

Dec. 12.—Being preparation day at Newton, I got ready, and got my mare, and went direct to Newton, and put in my mare at Edward Parkinson's, warmed me, and got a penny pot of ale and a toast; then went into chapel, and Thomas Fell came to me and paid me his half-year's salary,† due at Martinmas, and told me his son William's wife was drawing near the time of child-bearing, and he desired that she should be prayed for. I promised to remember her. So I went into the pulpit, and prayed. [After service.] So Leo. Leigh came to me and paid me the Martinmas rent for Threshfield tenement, viz., £1 15s., and withall blamed me that I should speak to Mr. Salisbury to write for it, and not to his wife. I said I had heard him say that he had sometimes got Mr. Salisbury to draw it, and I thought that he not being at chapel himself, it might be the properest for me to employ Mr. Salisbury as to speak to any other. So I said little more; but we parted, Mr. Leigh saying that as to what he paid me he would give it me at another time, to which I said it would not come out of season; when he was disposed to give, I should thankfully receive. So I went to my mare, and got on my coat, and a penny pot of ale, and offered to pay a penny for it and a penny for hay, but the landlady could not change with me;‡ so I got my mare, and came direct to the Raddam Laund, and dined; then came direct home.

* For the ale. † His quota towards the minister's stipend.
‡ Could not give the "change" out of the silver.

Dec. 13.—Son John went to Preston with butter for Madam Sudal, and son Thomas having his web* finished he took my horse, and went with it home, and I spent the day wholly at home, and most in my closet. In the evening, son John came home from Proud Preston, and brought the old newspaper from Ellen Seed's, had left the new one there, and had bought 2 pennyworth of black Jersey, and brought 1s. 2d. home; and son Thomas got home from Fernhurst † about 7 o'clock, and we supped. P.S.—To-day, I paid Robert Seed, of the Little Town, £2, towards the cow price I bought the last summer of Thomas Seed, his late father, now dead. And, this morning, son Thomas told me that old Thomas Entwistle, *alias* Thomas o' th' Grain, was dead and buried a fortnight ago.

Dec. 14, Lord's Day.—[After service and administration of the Lord's Supper at Newton.] So went to my coat and mare, and got a penny pot of ale, and got my mare, and came by the Farwick House to see how John Jackson was and his family, because John was not a' chapel. I saw neither John nor his wife, but their daughter said he had been ill of a cold, and durst not venture out for fear of adding to it, but he was gone to the Holm barn to fodder. I 'light not, but came on to Chipping, where, being both cold and hungry, I called at Thomas Sudal's, and got both meat and drink, for which I paid 3d.; so I came direct home; so son John took my mare, and I warmed me, and supped. . . P.S.—To-day, Edward Croasdal, o' th' Inkleing green,‡ came to me, and said that old Alice Martin desired that I would call on her as soon as I had opportunity. I said to him that if I heard no more from her, I would, if I had life and the Lord pleased, call on her on Saturday se'nnight.

Dec. 15.—I set son John to thresh, and I spent the day wholly at home, and mostly in my closet. P.S.—This evening, Edward Salisbmry bespoke my horse to go to Blackburn on to-morrow, and my

* The piece of cloth which he had woven.
† In the neighbourhood of Darwen.
‡ About a mile from Whitewell, on the Lancashire side of the Hodder.

love scolded him that he never paid erring* for loom fetching.

Dec. 16.—Edward Salisbury had not my horse to Blackburn, but his father went home with his work.† In the evening he sent me 6d. towards fetching his looms, which is the first penny he has paid me for that service, which I joyfully took, and after supper I walked with my love to cousin Throop's. She wanted yeast, and son John got 3 half bushels of malt ground at Thomas Seed's, and I spent 2d. while I was at Throop's. P.S.—To-day, I paid Ratcliff a poor lay.‡

Dec. 17.—Spent the day wholly at home, and most in offering to winnow oats for the kilns, and son John went to Eccleshill coalpit for 2 loads of coals for Henry Richmond's. The wind was dull, ‖ that I dressed not the oats, but got the chaff out of the most of 'em; in the evening, John got well from the coalpit. . . P.S.— This afternoon, William Dilworth, clerk of Chipping, came to me, and wanted me to give account what children I have baptized these 3 years past. I gave him account of 2 of Ralph Ellison's, 2 of James Procter's, 2 of Henry Graves's, one of Richard Parkinson's, and one of mine own, viz., daughter Catherine. I paid him for Katherine's baptism, viz., 6d., and he went his way.

Dec. 18.—Spent the day wholly at home in dressing oats, and we got 5 loads to the Lum § mill to dry, and John brought word that they would be dried to-morrow, and we must make 'em** on Saturday. In the evening, I supped, and James Bleasdal came and bespoke one of my nags to Preston to-morrow. I promised him one if he would carry us a little butter to Madam Sudal's; he said he would.

Dec. 19.—So sent John to Astley House to meet Thomas Smith, who is to thatch†† there, and to serve him, and James Bleasdal had my horse to Preston; and I got one load of coals on my mare, and son Henry and I went with it to Astley House, and I

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* Erring, (?) the journey or errand.
† The cloth he had woven. ‡ A ley or rate.
‖ There was little wind.
§ In the township of Ribchester, about half a mile to the south of Knowl green.
** Complete the process.
†† He uses the term "thatch" and "thack" indifferently.

sent Henry for the other; and I was beside the thackers all the day, and they set a churn on the house for a chimney,* and thackt all the straw, and I paid Thomas Smith 10d. for his day's work because he found his own victuals; and son Henry brought the second load of coals; and Mary Richmond paid me 6d. in silver, and 6d., she said, she paid Edward Abram for setting glass in one pane of Astley House window, which paid for one load of coals, and the other she would pay me in a fortnight's time. So I came direct home with son John, and supped, and my love told me that James Blensdal had sent word that he would come either to-night or in the morning and pay me for my horse's service.

Dec. 20.—Sent son John to th' Lum mill to shill my oats, and I foddered my goods; then I was in my closet and family till a 11 a clock; then I took my horse and mare, and went to the Lum mill, and found that all my oats were shilled, and that they had taken me up a load of groats for sale, and 10 bushels for grinding beside, all mooter.† I brought home the load of sale groats,‡ and the dust, and the great seed, and sent Thomas for the 2 loads of mule,‖ and spent the day in my closet and family. In the evening, I helped to unload the meal, and bound and foddered my cows.

Dec. 21, Lord's Day.— So got ready for the chapel, and about the usual time I walked direct to the chapel, and set in the pulpit till people came; [at service] gave notice for service here on Thursday next, being what is commonly called Christmas Day.§ . . Was in my closet while dinner was ready,

* A not unusual expedient in country places for a chimney for the humbler class of cottages.

† See note † page 65.

‡ Groats intended for sale. ‖ Mixture.

§ Rather a slighting way of speaking of the great Christian anniversary. But the early Protestant Dissenters were strongly opposed to its observance as a religious anniversary, and to the festivities connected therewith, which they regarded as superstitious; and many sects of Protestant Dissenters still have no religious observance on Christmas Day. Indeed, when Independency was in the ascendant, in the time of the Commonwealth, the religious observance of Christmas Day was abolished. On the 24th December, 1652, parliament resolved "that the markets be kept to-morrow, being the

then dined; so was in my closet and family till evening, when I foddered my cows, and my love milked; then we set our children to read some portion of Scripture, and we sung the 8th hymn of 3rd. book, Watts's Hymns, and I prayed in my family.

Dec. 22.—So spent the day wholly at home in my family and closet, and about my goods. . . P.S.—To-day, James Bleasdal sent us a shilling for the 3 lb. of butter he carried to Preston for us, and we had 3 lb. of salt and a pound of candles towards the service we had done him with our horses.

Dec. 23.—So sent son John with my horse and mare towards the coalpit, and I foddered my cows. . . I was at home till 2 o'clock, when I went to see old Elizabeth Seed. I found her in bed weak, and in a lask.* I discoursed some time with her,

25th of December," and "that no observation shall be had of the 25th day of December, commonly called Christmas Day, nor any solemnity used or exercised in churches upon that day, in respect thereof." Of the effect of this order we have some interesting notes in Evelyn's Diary. In 1652, he says:—"Christmas Day, no sermon anywhere, no church being permitted to be open, so observed it at home." In 1653, he records: "No church or public assembly. I was fain to pass the devotions of that blessed day with my family at home." In 1654, he says: "No public offices in churches, but penalties on observance, so as I was constrained to celebrate it at home." In 1655, he records: "There was no more notice taken of Christmas Day in churches. I went to London, where Dr. Wild preached the funeral sermon of preaching, this being the last day, after which Cromwell's proclamation was to take place, that none of the Church of England should dare either to preach or administer sacraments, teach schools, &c., on pain of imprisonment or exile. So this was the mournfullest day that in my life I had seen." In 1657, he writes: "I went to London with my wife to celebrate Christmas Day, Mr. Gunning preaching in Exeter Chapel, on 7 Michah, 2. Sermon ended, as he was giving us the Holy Sacrament, the chapel was surrounded with soldiers, and all the communicants and assembly surprised and kept prisoners by them. In the afternoon came Col. Whaley, Goffe, and others, from Whitehall, to examine us one by one; some they committed to the Marshall; some to prison. . . They . . examined me why, contrary to an ordinance made that none should any longer observe the superstitious time of the Nativity (so esteemed by them.) I durst offend and particularly be at Common Prayers, which they told me was but the mass in English. . . Finding no colour to detain me, they dismissed me with much pity of my ignorance. These men . . spoke spiteful things of our Lord's Nativity."

* A diarrhœa, or flux. In "Langham's Garden of Health," published in 1633, there is a receipt for its cure:—"The polished red bark (of chesnuts) boyled and drunk doth stop the *lask*, the bloody flux, &c."

then prayed; then came homewards, and in my way called to see James Seed. I found him not within, but was told he was better than he had been; so I came home, and found son John come home, and that he had teemed the coals at our house end.

Dec. 24.—So sent son Thomas towards Preston with a load of shilling* to sell, and I got ready and followed him, and went direct to Preston, and put in my mare at the Flying Horse, and warmed me, and got a penny pot of ale. Then waited of Thomas coming with the groats, and went to the market † with him, and sold 'em at 13s. 5d., and Thomas waited on 'em to deliver 'em, and draw silver. So I went to the Flying Horse, and got a penny pot of ale, and then went to Maddam Sudal's with 3 lb. of butter, and got pay a shilling, and she invited me to come and get some broth with her. I said, in an hour's time I would, and accordingly did. So Thomas, having got pay for the groats, I bought 17 lb. of beef, at a penny ¾d. a pound, and paid 2s. 5¾d. for it; and a quarter of mutton, at 1s. 11d.; a pluck, at a penny halfpenny; a quartern tobacco, 2½d; a yule loaf, ‡ 3d. Then Thomas and I had two pots of ale, and I got our goods and our nags, and came direct home, and we supped, and I was told by my love that Jennet Parkinson, o' th' Coldcoats, had sent her son to tell me that Alice Martin, o' th' Inkling Green, was very bad, and like to die, and desired that I would come visit her. I purposed to go to-morrow.

Dec. 25. ‖—So, having notice for a sermon to-day at the chapel, I got ready, and about ten o'clock I got my mare, and went thither, and found none but

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* Husks of barley.

† The grain market was then on the south side of the Market-place. Kuerden, in his Description of Preston, written at the latter end of the seventeenth century, says:—"The upper corn market, beginning at one of clock, upon the corn bell ringing; here standeth for sale rowes of wheat, rye, groats, in their distinct fyles and orders; below them towards the west is the barley and bean market, places in distinct and well ordered rowes, in which place, before the corn comes into town, was hydes and skinns exposed to sale untill 9 or 10 aclock."

‡ A Christmas loaf.

‖ The diarist makes no allusion to its being Christmas Day.

Robert Parker come; he and I went into Walmsley's, and warmed our feet, and Robert called for a pint of ale, and John Parker came to us, and brought a little basket in which he had beef for our family use. He told me he had brought it for me, and we left it in Walmsley's; and I went into the chapel, and I prayed and read Scriptures, and we sung part of an hymn, and I prayed and praised God. Then preached from Gal. 5. The sermon being ended, I prayed, and we sang two verses of an hymn, and I dismissed the people. So Jennet Parkinson came to me, and said she desired to hold a private day* at her house on Tuesday next if I could come. I told her I knew nothing but I could come and assist at that time, and purposed to do so. So Robert Parker called me aside, and said that he wanted me and John Parkinson to bring in all the writings belonging to the chapel that we found in the keeping of Edmund Parkinson, late of the Cock Hill, but John Parkinson, being gone to Manchester, we concluded that it should be on New Year's Day. So Edward Croasdale being at chapel from Alice Martin to get me go to see her, I took my mare, and having put the beef into the hands of my sons, and got a pennyworth of ale, I went with Edward direct to Alice, and found her weak, but very sensible. I prayed with her and for her, and at her request gave her private communion. So dined; then went to Edward Croasdal's, and being invited to lodge there, I set while supper was over, and Timothy Jackson coming from the Pharwick House brought word that old Robert Sympson, miller at Stablake mill, was dead.

Dec. 26.— . . Went into Alice Martin's, and read Scriptures, and prayed in the family. So set a while. Then John Jackson, o' th' Farwick House, came to Edward Croasdal's, and told me that a messenger had been at him to engage him to get me word to come to Robert Sympson's burial to-morrow. I got my mare, and went to Pharwick House, and dined there. So got my

* A day of devotion at her own house, then a common practice among the Dissenters, more especially in country places.

mare. and came direct home, and found all well. . . P.S. — To-day, Edward Croisdale's wife bestowed a piece of beef on me, and John Jackson's wife gave me 1s. and a few [the leaf is torn, and a word missing] for which I gave thanks.

Dec. 27.— . . So, being Robert Sympson's burial to-day, I got ready about 10 a clock. I got my mare, and went to John Parker's, o' th' Lees . . and I set an hour. I got my mare, and went direct to the burying-house,* and got in just before the servitors' set, and I dined with them. So the corpse was carried forth, and they set forward with 'em [it] towards Slaitburn,† and I set and smoked a pipe. Then got my mare, and followed 'em, and overtook 'em at the Wood end, and attended 'em to Slaitburn, and was in the church and at the grave till Mr. Weatherhead ‡ read over the office of burial. So I got my mare, and came with John Jackson and one Bee, of Hoddersido, to the Knowle stones. ‖ Then we parted, they going homewards, and I going to Gregill§ . . and set while supper was ready. Then supped, and in some time after I read Scriptures, and we sung part of a psalm, and I prayed in the family. . .—P.S.—To-day, at the burying-house, the sons of Robert Sympson, deceased, told me that their father, while he was yet alive, had ordered 'em to get me preach a funeral for him at Newton, and had mentioned a text to be discoursed

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* The house where the corpse was lying, and where the "burying" had to take place.

† Slaidburn. The name was in old times variously written Slaitburn, Slayteburne, Slaitburne, Slateburne, Sledeburne, Sladeburne, Sladeburn, Slaydburn, Sladeborne, Slaidburne, and Slaidburn. It occurs, in all these forms, in the account of the parish by Dr. Whitaker in his two Histories of Whalley and Craven. In the latter work, the doctor says:—"This [Sladeburne] and not Slateburne, I think, is the true orthography of the word; as I know not that there are any quarries of slate about the place: but Slæd, in the Saxon language, is a road winding along a valley. In the Islandic, 'Slæd' is a valley itself. Either of these senses may be adapted to the situation of the place."

‡ The minister.

‖ The Knowle stones are about a quarter of a mile from the banks of the Hodder, to the north, on the opposite side to Knowlemere, the seat of Jonathan Peel, Esq

§ Grey Gill is about a quarter of a mile south of the Hodder, about a mile eastward of Colonel Towneley's Stud farm.

upon, in Lamentations, the 2nd, 24.*

Dec. 28, Lord's Day.— . . About ten a clock I set forward, and went direct to Newton . . and went to chapel. [After service] I went to my mare, and got a pot of ale, paid 2d. for it, and 2d. that I left the last time ; so came direct to Raddam Laund, and dined there ; then had thought to have come home, but it raining and looking like for rain, I went with John Parker to his house to lodge, and put in my mare, and set in the house while the family had supped. Then I read part of the 9th of St. Mark in Mr. Henry's Exposition on the Evangelist,† with the notes thereon. Then we sung part of a psalm, and I prayed in the family.

Dec. 29.—Read part of the 2nd of Luke, with Mr. Henry's notes, and we sung 4 verses of the 42nd Psalm, and I prayed in the family. So I asked John Parker to sell or give me a muck stool. He said he would sell none, but he would give me one, and he fetched me one, and I took it, and tied it under my coat . . and came direct home, and found all well.

Dec. 30.-- . . Being under promise to go to a prayer day at Jennet Parkinson's, o' th' Coldcoats, I got ready, and about a 11 a clock I set forward, and went direct to the Abbot barn, and paid Thos. Rogerson his demand for 4 thrave of straw I had of him for Astley House, viz., 1s. Then went to th' Coldcoats, and in a little time I laid open the nature of the exercise, and prayed for a blessing. Then the exercise was carried on by John Parkinson, Richard Parkinson, John Parker, John Corner, and I concluded ; so we sung 5 verses of the 68th Psalm, and I dismissed the people. So we dined ; and I delivered in to John Parker all the writings and receipts I had relating to the chapel ; and then I got my mare, and came to Ralph Ellison's, who is under disorder of body, and found him some better than he had been, and I prayed with and for him.

* An error of the diarist, for the third chapter. There is no 24th verse in the second chapter of Lamentations; all the chapters of the Lamentations have 22 verses each except the third. The 24th verse of the 3rd chapter is "The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him."

† Matthew Henry's Exposition.

So I came direct home, and found my family well.

Dec. 31.—So William Hesketh's son-in-law called for the land-cess, which I paid him, and I spent the day wholly at home, and most in my closet. In the afternoon my sons Thomas and John went to Brother Miller's, and Mr. Helm came to lodge with us; and I bound and foddered my goods, and then supped with Mr. Helm and James Corner; then read a psalm, and I prayed in my family, and we set till midnight,* when James Corner went home and Mr. Helm to bed, and I retired into my lodging-room, and commended my all to God, and lay down beside my love, and slept well. Blessed be God. Thus ended the year 1729, in health, peace, and comfort to me and my family. The Lord forgive the sins of me and mine that we have committed the year gone, and bless us with his grace and holy spirit, that we may begin a new year more to the honour of God, the credit of Christian religion, the peace of our consciences, and the profit of others; that our life being unto holiness, our end may be eternal life, through Jesus Christ, to whom with the Father and Holy Ghost be glory and praise throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

FINIS.

[Then follows an elaborately compiled index to the principal entries in the diary for the past half-year.]

* The practice prevails in many country places of "sitting the new year in."

DIARY FOR THE YEAR 1730.

A Diary for the year 1730, in which is contained an account of my daily transactions, or a true relation when, in what, and how I spend my time; together with what is said or done remarkable either by myself or others. Done as a mirror to scan my life and actions, so that I may know when and how to humble myself before God, and when to rejoice in His divine goodness. Begun on January the first, 1730.

January the 1st, 1730.—This morning, being in health, I rose, and prayed, and praised God; so washed, and got ready for Newton, and Mr. Helm prayed in our family. So Mr. Helm being to preach for me at Newton, but wanting a horse, he went direct to Bradley Hall, and I took my mare, and followed him thither, and he got a nag of Richard Parkinson, and we went together to Newton. On Birket Moor* we met with John Parker, who told me that old Alice Martin was dead, and I was desired to go to her burial. At Newton we put up our mares at Edward Parkinson's, and got 'em hay. So we got 2d. in ale, and I went into the chapel, and prayed; then baptised William Fell's daughter, calling her name Margaret; and Oliver Wood's daughter, calling her name Sarah. So we sung the 128th Psalm, and Mr. Helm prayed; then preached from Phil 3, 20. Sermon being ended he prayed, and we sung the 117th Psalm, and he dismissed the people. So we went to our horses, and got a pot of ale, 2d., and got our nags, I paying 6d. for ale and hay, and came to the Raddam Laund, and dined

* The moor is now enclosed. Briket fell is in Yorkshire, about a mile from Whitewell.

there. So we came thence to the Stakes Moss,* where Mr. Helm and I parted, and I came to Ralph Ellison's, and found him ill. I prayed with him and for him; then came direct home, and was in my family till 9 o'clock; then prayed in my family, and retired into my lodging-room, and commended my all to God, and lay down beside my love, and slept well. Blessed be God. P.S.—To-day, I asked both John Jackson and Thomas Fell the lend of 40 shillings, but succeeded not; they both being scarce of silver.

January 2nd.— . . About 10 o'clock, I got my mare, and went direct to Christopher Martin's burying-house, and dined soon after I got there. Remained there while the corpse was carried out, and attended them to Burham town.† Then seeing the sun low, and knowing it a long way to Slaitburn, and then 8 miles from home, I not being able to abide the night air, but catch cold, I turned back, and came direct home.

January 3rd.— . . Daughter Margaret went with 4 pounds of butter to Preston, and brought home 2 newspapers, and 1s 4d. for the butter from Madam Sudal.

January 4th (Lord's Day):—Got my mare and my love, and went direct to the chapel. . . I preached from Job, 34, 31; then prayed, and represented the case of the poor Protestants at Copenhagen, in Denmark.‡

January 5th.— . . We had James Bleasdal and John Berry to sew a coat for son Henry.

January 6th.—James Bleasdale came to cut son Thomas's hair and finish son Henry's coat. ‖ . . And I accounted with him; so that we neither of us are indebted to other, but are clear of all demands

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* Stakes farm, the property of Colonel Towneley, is in Yorkshire, adjoining the Hodder, and about a mile and a half from Chipping. The "moss" has long since been cultivated. Stakes farm is now tenanted by Mr. John Dewhurst, of Preston.

† Burholme, in Bowland, near Whitewell.

‡ There had been a fearful fire at Copenhagen, with a vast loss both of property and life.

‖ One man being both barber and tailor shows that the division of labour which characterises modern trades had not then been extensively adopted in the thinly populated district about Chipping.

from the beginning of the world to this day. *. . Son John went with our horse to the smithy to be frosted.†

January 7th.— . . . Son John being gone to the coalpit, and the wind blowing, I windowed oats that were in chaff i' th' barn, and I carried to the ark 24 strikes and a half. . . I went to John Eccles's, and set there while he clogged Henry a pair of clogs. I paid 3d. for 'em.

January 8th.—So spent the day wholly at home, and mostly in preparing Robert Sympson's funeral.‡

January 9th.— . . I set my sons of leading out manure to the ground I purpose to set potatoes on, and Richard Cutler came for my tithe rent, and I paid him for it, and for want of brass to change I overpaid him. I paid 11s. 9d. instead of 11s. 8d. My love and I being under promise to visit Richard Parkinson's, Richard Parker's, and William Rhodes's families, we set forward betwixt 11 and 12 o'clock, and I went direct to Bradley Hall, and dined there, and set till about 3 o'clock. Then we went to Richard Parker's, and set there one hour, and got something to eat, and Ellen bestowed wool on my wife that would be a pair of stockings, and Richard gave me half-a-crown; so we came homewards, and in our way we called at Katherine Rhodes's, and found her indifferent in health, but under some trouble about 4 pounds of Jersey that the Jersey man ‖ that comes to the Arbour § demands pay for that she has never had, as she says.

January 11th, Lord's Day. — Went direct to Newton . . preached Robert Sympson's funeral, from Lamentations, 3, 24, . . went to Robert Sympson's, and dined with his children, and his son Henry paid me for the funeral what his late father ordered him to give me, viz., 2s. 6d.** Rid direct to Marshaw.††

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* See note ‖ page 65.

† To have frost nails put in its shoes.

‡ Funeral sermon.

‖ A fine sort of wool was called Jersey.

§ In Thornley.

** The fee for the sermon. On a subsequent occasion (January 25) he records his disappointment at not getting paid for a funeral sermon. See page 96.

†† In Wyersdale.

January 12th.—Went direct to Lancaster, and called at Esther Newton's door, but stayed not, but went direct to John Anyon's door, and finding nobody within I rid on to Baman Hall.*

January 13th.—I set at Baman Hall with Ebinezer Bisbrown and Thomas Webster and the family till afternoon; then I came thence with Ebinezer Bisbrown to John Anyon's, and found the old man by the fire, but much abated in his vitals. I set in the house while supper was ready; then supped. At the last, James Bradley and his wife, with others of the family, came to us and other neighbours, and I read a portion of Scriptures, and we sung part of a psalm, and I prayed in the family.

January 14th.— . . Set in the family till people began to come into sermon. Then I withdrew into my lodging-room, and observed my notes, and where to read, and people having come, I went to them, and prayed for a blessing; then read the 1st part of the 119th Psalm, and I analysed on it. So we sung some verses of the psalm, and I prayed, and preached from the 23rd of St. Luke, the 43rd verse. . . So dined, and after that visited a family in Skerton. Then went to Baman Hall . . Several came out of Lancaster to us. . . I prayed for a blessing, repeated my sermon, and we sung part of a psalm.

January 15th.— . . So I set at Baman Hall till full noon; then I got my mare, and came thence to John Anyon's, and dined there, and set an hour. Then I came thence to Lancaster. . . When there, I went with Alexander Grist to a man's house, in Penny-street, whose wife's sister is indisposed in body. I prayed with her and for her. . . Came from Lancaster to Thomas Storsacre's, near the Hole of Ellhill,† where I designed to lodge. . . Esther Bradley and Thomas Webster came; we supped together, and set some time; then I read Scriptures, and we sung part of a psalm, and I prayed in the family.

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* Beaumont Hall, in the township of Hest-with-Slyne, near Lancaster.

† Ellel, near Lancaster. The Hole is a farm in Ellel.

January 16th.— . . Set in the family till 2 o'clock; then . . came direct to Brother John Miller's, and found him gone to James Bradley* sale, in Scorton, but yet far from well, having been late in a fever, and now labouring under a tertian ague.

January 17th.— . . Came direct home, and got home about 2 a clock, and through Divine goodness I found all well;† and was told by my love that son John was at Standing Hey on Monday last; that the little mare was in good liking,‡ but not sold; that William Barton could not help me with what I wanted,‖ but could the next week.

January 18th, Lord's Day.— . . Preached from Job, 34, 31,§ and went on to the arguments moving to amendment under the rod, drawn from ourselves; then prayed; then read Copenhagen brief,** and while the collection was we sung part of the 41st Psalm. . . [After service.] The people being together, I drew near to see what was to do; they said they were trying, by subscriptions, what could be raised towards defraying the charges of Edward Bolton's suit, and I bid 'em set me down 2s. 6d. So being cold, I went into Edward Walmsley's, and warmed me, but spent nothing.

January 20th.—Went direct to William Barton's, at Standing Hey, and dined there. So went to Mr. Jolly's, and told him that cousin Katherine Miller designed to come to be his servant woman. . . P.S.—Yesternight, James Hargreaves was at our house; he said I might have his plough at an easy price; that we would go mean†† at ploughing; he would not use me as Thomas Rhodes used me last year; that in case I got not plough irons he would order my plough to be fitted to his sock,‡‡ and he would get his plough irons dressed.

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* The omission of the apostrophe *s* is yet common in many parts of Lancashire.

† He had been five days from home. ‡ Well thought of.

‖ A loan of money, probably. See postcript to entry of January 1st.

§ He preached from the same text a fortnight previous.

** A request for a collection in aid of the Copenhagen sufferers. See entry January 4th.

†† Join; have in common. The word is retained in the term "meanygate," a common pasture or walk for cattle. On the Ordnance map there are several "meanygates" shown at Tarleton and Rufford. ‡‡ Ploughshare.

January 21st.—Cousin James Miller came into William Barton's, and said that cousin Catherine could not come to serve Mr. Jolly as his father was worse, and his mother tender, and they could not spare her. I was ill troubled at the news, but said little; but wanting 4s. to borrow of William Barton, and he not having so much by him, he and I went into George Cockshud's, and borrowed it of him, and William Barton is to sell my little mare as soon as he can, and repay it, or I am to get it by the middle of March that he may have it to buy a cow with at Clitheroe fair. So I came into William Barton's, and son John being uneasy at staying at home, and urgent to go out to service, I offered him to William Barton, who said he wanted a lad, and would take him if I would spare him. I said I was willing, and asked him how soon he would have him to come. He said as soon as I could send him, and he asked what I expected for him. I said I thought it proper that the lad should come a-liking* awhile, and if they accorded, then to tell of wages, and I said I would send him on Monday next.

January 22nd.—Son John being gone to the coal-pit, I minded my goods, and foddered and watered them. . . About midday, Robert Seed, o' th' Little Town, called on me, and I paid him the remainder of the cow-price I owe him, viz., £2 2s. 6d., which, added to what I paid him before, viz., £2 0s. 0d., makes, in all, £4 2s. 6d., which is the intire sum I was to pay for her, and Robert returned me 1s. back.† . . Son Robert came from the coalpit, and ill wet the lad and all was.

* On trial, to see whether he liked the place or not.

† Amongst country people in Lancashire it is considered unlucky to buy cattle without receiving something back "for luck," and the practice is almost universal among farmers of returning some coin when paid for a horse, cow, or pig. A farmer of fourscore years old, a few years since, was telling us that in early life he once paid for a cow, and did not receive a gift from the purchase money. Not long after the cow was found dead in the field, the casualty having, as he gravely assured us, been occasioned by the omission of the return of money for luck. In the half century that had elapsed between this accident and the time of his narrative of the circumstance, he told us he had never bought a cow, or any other animal, without seeing to the "gift again," and nothing would have induced him to take home a cow or other animal unaccompanied with such a *douceur*.

January 23rd.— . . Finished the composition of Alice Martin's funeral sermon. That being done somewhat before night, I spent the evening in one exercise or other in my house and household affairs.

January 24th.—Sent my love and son John to Preston with butter for Madam Sudal, and to buy some clothes for our John to wear this plow-time. In the evening my love and son John came home from Preston, having bought John a coat, 3s. 6d. ; a hat, 1s. 2d. ; a brat, 6d. ;* in all, 5s. 2d. ;—and for me they bought a pair of stockings, 1s. 3d. ; a pair of gaiters, 4d. ; an almanack, 6d.† ; in all, 2s. 1d. for me.

January 25th, Lord's Day.—Went direct to Newton, and put in my mare at Edward Parkinson's, and got her hay, and laid off my coat and gown, and got a penny pot of ale, and young Cawson gave me a letter to James Harrison from Captain Hodgkinson‡ . . preached Alice Martin's funeral from Heb., 3, 6. . . Mary, relict of the late Richard Winder, went with me into the chamber,‖ as did Thomas Fell, and she paid the legacy left me yearly, viz., 7s. . . I went to the relations of Alice Martin . . and set awhile with them, and expected they would have paid me for the sermon, but I got nothing, only Edward Croasdal said Christopher should have seen me by right ; he is to pay.

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* A child's bib or apron.

† Perhaps a Moore's Almanac, for the annual by "Francis Moore, Physician," which is still a great favourite among country people, was then published. "Poor Robin's Almanac" "John Partridge's Almanac," and "Rider's British Merlin," were also then published, and were popular publications. At that time all almanacs dealt largely in astrological predictions. Almanacs were then free of duty ; a tax was afterwards imposed on them, but it was repealed in 1834.

‡ Captain Hodgkinson, of Bosden. In the song of "The Stonyhurst Buck Hunt" (see note †† page 54), alluding to the course of the hunted buck, there occur the lines :—

"To Bosden stoutly he did run,
The seat of Captain Hodgkinson."

Bosden is in the Forest of Bowland, westward of Newton. It is now the property of Jonathan Peel, Esq., of Knowlmere. The proper name is Boarsden. Some of the animals that roamed the forest in old times have left their traces in the local nomenclature of the district. There are Boar's den, Wolf house, Doe ford, Buck Hill, Browsholme (originally Broxholme) the holme or field of the brock or badger, &c.

‖ Vestry.

January 26th.— . . Went to James Harrison's. . . I wanted to borrow a corn sack, but theirs was full at present. . . In the afternoon, I sent out son John to go be servant with William Barton, o' th' Standing Hey.

January 27th.— . . Spent the forenoon at home winnowing 2 loads of oats, which now makes 3 loads to go to th' kilns, and then dined; and son Thomas being gone with my horse and mare to begin to plow at James Harrison's, I went see how they went on, and was beside 'em while* they loosed. Then came with 'em to Harrison's, and bought an old plough that is new dressed up at 2s., and I paid him for it; and he allowed me for what Thomas sheared there in harvest, and a shilling for my clerking† for him the last year and to-year;‡ so I am to write for him to his next accounting day, and the plough will be paid for.

January 28th.— . . On Monday, the 19th inst., I sent Mr. Nabb 2s. 6d. for teaching son Henry the last year, Henry bringing me word that he should have brought pay 2 or 3 days ago.

January 29th.— . . Sent Thomas to plow at James Harrison's, and Henry, Mary, and Ann to their respective schools.

January 30th.—It being preparation day at Hesketh-lane, I got ready, and went to chapel. . . [After service] James Corner represented to me his hard circumstances in respect to his mundane affairs, and wished that I would recommend his case in a letter to Mr. Benson, Mr. Helm, and Mr. Pilkington.‖ I said I would do it for him if he would come to our house to-morrow at night. So he asked me to ask Thomas Slater and John Dixon if they would subscribe with him. I did so, and they were willing.

January 31st.—Went direct to Preston, and put in my mare at the Flying Horse, and set there waiting of my love's coming, when I spent 4d.;

* A provincialism for "until."

† Keeping his accounts.

‡ This year; once a good old English phrase, and still a common Lancashire word. The prefix retains its place in the word "to-day," for "this day."

‖ Three dissenting ministers.

then, hearing nothing of her, I bought a manchet, 1d.; and a bottle, 2d.; and a quart of claret wine, 1s. 6d. So she came, and went into the Old Shambles, and bought 6 pounds of bacon, at 2s. 1d. So we came to our host-house,* and I paid John Greenwood† for 13 newspapers, 1s. 6½d.; and we had a pint of ale, 2d.; so I got my mare and my love, and gave the hostler a 1d. We came direct home, and found all well, and I was in my family all evening, only John Eccles sent his son over to me for pay for clogs. I went to see what was the matter. He said he had never been paid for clogging Margaret and Ann clogs. I told him I thought he had, but I could not say it was so till I had seen my book, but I would see my book, and what was due to him I would pay him. . . James Corner came . . then writ a letter of request to Mr. Helm, &c.; he wished me to get it subscribed by the communion.‡ I promised him to do so.

February 1, Lord's Day.— . . I got ready for chapel, and took wine with me, and bread, and went to James Walmsley's, and found Thomas Walmsley there, and put the two bottles into his hands, and the bread, and he took 'em into the chapel. [After describing the sermon] dismissed the people. So I administered the Lord's Supper, and while the usual collection was we sung 2 verses out of the 103rd Psalm, and I dismissed the communion. Then got James Corner's letter signed by John Parkinson, John Dixon, John Parker, Thomas Slater, and Henry Procter. Eliz‖ Dobson being badly, I went with John Parker direct home, and administered to him the Lord's Supper, and John Parker joined with us.

Feb. 2.— . . . Went into Elliz Dobson's room and read the 25th Psalm, and I prayed with him, for him, and the family. So I set till near a 11 a clock in the house, and John Parker's servant man Charles being to be married to-day to a daughter of Thos. Gardner's, I saw him on horseback with John

* The public-house they were stopping at.
† John Greenwood was landlord of the Flying Horse.
‡ The body of communicants.
‖ Ellis.

Parker's chidren to go to the Whitewell* to marry there. So I came home from John Parker's to William Thompson's, in Thornley, to see Thomas Thompson, who was prayed for yesterday. . . So I read a Psalm and prayed with him and for him. . . . P.S.—Yesterday, Catherine Walmsley told me that John Shankland, a Scot, was dead; that he died a week ago. And to-day I borrowed 2 books for Thomas Thompson, and left 'em with him, of John Barker, viz., one bound, preached† at Grindleton Chapel ‡ and one stitched, called A Letter,‖ and I borrowed one from Thompson called the White Wolf.§

Feb. 3.—John Eccles came in and I paid him the last of the barn rent, and arrears for clogging, and now owe him nothing at all.

Feb. 4.— . . . Meeting Elliz Dilworth I set him the Broomcroft.

Feb. 5.— . . . Being under a promise to visit old Elizabeth Pye, I got my mare and rid thither, and was not long ere I administered to her the Lord's Supper. Then I dined, and having an errand to Jane Crosfield's, of Forton, I took my mare and went thitherward, and in the way called on John Miller's family, and found John Miller at Garstang, and a box standing on the table, I asked what

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* The little chapel of Whitewell, in the Forest of Bowland. This chapel, though in Yorkshire, is within the large parish of Whalley. The sacred edifice, adjoining the noted inn of Whitewell, is charmingly situated on the banks of the Hodder, in a most beautiful valley. Dr. Whitaker says of Whitewell Chapel, "I suspect this chapel to have been a monument of the piety of our forefathers, in accommodating travellers, upon roads where there were no churches, with the means of late and early devotion. To the same motive are to be ascribed the chapels formerly erected on the piers of bridges. 'Prayers and provender hinder no journeys,' said the devout and excellent Herbert, a maxim of which the former part is now entirely forgotten."

† Probably a manuscript sermon.

‡ The episcopal chapel of Grindleton, (near Clitheroe,) in the parish of Mitton, and West Riding of Yorkshire.

‖ Probably some religious tract.

§ A sermon preached at Paul's Cross, London, on Sunday, Feb. 11, 1627, by Stephen Denison, minister of Katherine Cree Church, and published by George Miller, was called "The White Wolfe." On the back of the last page of the Epistle to Reader, there is a coarsely executed wood engraving of "The Wolfe in a Sheepes Skinne."

it meant. Ann Miller said it was Brother Henry Woodworth's; he was come from Oxford, and was gone with John Miller to Garstang. I smoked a pipe and then went to Scorton, where I got my mare shoes fastened, and I gave the smith a halfpenny.

Feb. 16.—Jane Crosfield and I discoursed about the errand I came upon. She said she could not help me. . . Got my mare and came thence direct to John Miller's, and found Brother Henry Woodworth just fastening his box on his horse to go home. I was glad to see him, and invited him to go with me home, and lodge, but he refused, yet he said he would come see us before he went to Oxford again. . . Came thence direct to the Lower Core* when I called at the door and was told by Phillis Bleasdal that they designed to flit to Catchah,† on Tuesday next, so I went to Cock Hill, and asked Barth. Walmsley for £1, on his landlady's order. He paid it me. . . Came to Christopher Salisbury's, and asked the wife to tell him that I wanted Astley croft rent, that I would come again towards the latter end of the next week, and wished he would leave it for me. . . Came direct home, only called at James Walmsley's door for a glass bottle, and at Richard Radcliff's door, where I paid him two poor books‡ that he had the last week been at our house to demand. We had not brass, so I paid him 4s. 6d., and the sum was 4s. 8d., so I owe him 2d.

Feb. 7.— . . . Little John Berry sewed for us. . . I bought two corn chests of Robert Bell, the one at 10d. the other at 8d. . . John Eccles came from Preston and brought me no newspaper.

Feb. 8.—Lord's Day. . . . Got ready for Newton, and though it was a snowy morning, and like for a wet day, I set forward and went to John Parker's, and called to see Elliz Dobson, but he being asleep I saw him not, and went on to Raddam Laund and delivered a message from Thomas Rhodes to Robert Parker . . then went direct to Newton . . . preached from Psalm 116, 15v., and went

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* A farm at the foot of Parlick, in Chipping.

† Catshaw, in Wyersdale.

‡ Two poor rates; a rate, in country places, is often called "a book."

on to the second thing under the second respect,* in which the saints are advantaged by death. . . . Went to my mare and got a small dinner and a pint of ale. . . . I called at a door to light my pipe, and was told that Giles Bleasdal's second wife was dead.

Feb. 9.—Went to Giles Bleasdal's to the burial of his wife, and being very ill of a cold, I set by the fire some time; then we dined, and waited in one place and another till the corpse were carried forth towards Chipping; then I got my mare and followed the corpse to the Arbour Guidepost, † then it being late, and like for an ill night, and I out of order of a cold, I thought it prudent to come home. . . In herring I weared 4d; tobacco, 2½d; candles, 4d; pins, 1½d; in all, 1s.

Feb. 10.—Son Thomas went to James Witton's sale, he being broke up to.day.

Feb. 11.— . . . Having hemp treases to bùy, I took my daughters to the school, and went to Wharton's and bought a pair at 8d. . . . Came thence to John Brown's and paid Ann Brown for a pound of wool that my wife had of her some time ago 4d., and bought a pound more of her, and gave her 3d. for it. So we owe her nothing.

Feb. 14.—James Harrison and Thomas Corner came to plow for me, and I set them agate ‡ in the wheat field, and son Thomas went to Preston with 3 pounds of butter to Mrs. Sudall, and to enquire after some stockings and yarn that Ben Barker took to dye. . . Son Thomas brought the yarn and stockings . . and only one newspaper, none coming the last week.

Feb. 15.—Lord's Day [after service.]—James Bradley and my landlord being at chapel I went with 'em into Walmsley's, and I set with him an hour or more; I paid 2d. . . I was so hoarse that my voice could not be heard.

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* Second head.

† In Thornley, where the road from Preston joins Hesketh-lane.

‡ An expressive Lancashire word,—set them on their way, set them a-going—from the Scandinavian word *gate*, a way or road, still retained in "Fishergate," "Friargate," &c.

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Feb. 17.—I set son Thomas to grip* the ploughed lands to let water off 'em . . In the afternoon my love went to the Parsonage, and fetched me the rent of Astley croft from Christopher Salisbury. He sent but 8s., whereas 8s. 6d. was my due, and was referred to me, so the 6d. is yet behind.

Feb. 18.—My landlord came and I gave him account of what I had paid for him in clearing my farm, and it came to £1 11s. 3d., and he bought 8 bushels of seed oats, 9s. 4d., and I paid him in silver and gold £1 10s, so that I have now paid of my rent £3 10s. 7d., and I offered to sell him my branded † heifer at £4 10s., and he said he would give me £4 5s. for her and take her home with him, but it pleased me not.

Feb. 20.—James Harrison told me . . where I might buy some straw at 3d. a thrave . .. and that I might have his trail ‡ to lead straw with. . . John Walmsley asked me to let him have the help of my horses to carry lime for William Rhodes's to a close near Cuckoo Hall. ‖ . . . To-day at dinner, I hired son Thomas from Candlemas till Michaelmas, and am to give him 30s. and his meat to do my husbandry this sprink § and ensuing summer.

Feb. 21.—Thomas gripped in our wheat field ; in the afternoon he and I went to James Witton's barn and lapt 13 thrave of straw.

Feb. 22.—(Lord's Day).—Got ready for Newton, and got my mare and went direct to Edward Parkinson's, and put in my mare, and got a pint of ale and supt it, then went to chapel and Thomas Fell came to me and told me that several of his family had been very ill, but were much better . . and he asked me if I would pray for them at the chapel and go see 'em after, and I promised him that I would. —[After service] I went to Edward Parkinson's and got a penny pot of ale . . and went to Henry

* To cut a furrow or drain.

† Red and black.

‡ A sledge, or cart without wheels, still used in hilly districts.

‖ A farm on the higher road, over Longridge fell, in the township of Dutton.

§ In some parts of Lancashire words ending in *ing* are pronounced as if spelt *ink*.

Woods, near Wigglesworth, where I light and set awhile; then got my mare and went to my Mother Woodworth's, and found her well, and sister Elizabeth Driver and her husband, Jonas Driver, there. I never saw either of them before, and so was very glad to see 'em.

Feb 23.—I went [from Henry Woods's] to William Fell's and found him ill still, and I asked how the child Isabell did, and they said they hoped it was well, for it was dead. . . I prayed with and for William Fell; then came direct to Thomas Fell's and got some refreshment there, and hearing that old Richard Egglin's wife was ill, I went to visit her and prayed with her and for her. So came to Thomas Fell's again, and he gave me 2s. to bear my charges of this journey, and I got my mare and came thence direct by the Raddam Laund to John Parker's, o' th' Lees, whence I called to visit old Elliz Dobson, who I found but feeble, but by the fire. I prayed with him and for him. . . Came direct to the Birks, where I called at James Bleasdale's and bought 28 herring, cost 6d, and a quartern of tobacco, cost 2½. . . I came home direct and found all well.

Feb. 24.—To-day came young Bleakah from Richmond Houses,* and demanded 3d. for a church ley for Astley House and Broomcroft, which I paid him, and Richard Dickinson, of the Cocklache,† came and took 20 falls of delving of me, at a 11 shillings.

Feb. 27.—About noon came my landlord and smoked a pipe with me, and I sold him my branded cow that I bought at the old clerk's sale, at £4 5s., and I put it down to my rent account.

Feb. 28.—Son Thomas we sent to Preston with 3 pounds of butter for Mrs. Sudall. . . . Son Thomas came home from Preston and brought 2 newspapers, which makes three of a second quarter, the later of which papers informs me of the death of the young Emperor of Russia, or Czar of Muscovy,

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* A farm about a mile and a half to the south west of the village of Chipping.

† Cockleach, a farm near Longridge, about three miles south west of Chipping.

Peter the 2nd,* who died on the 29th of January,† 1729-30, in the 15th year of his age, and that he is succeeded in the empire by Ann Iwanowna,‡ present Duchess Dowager of Courland.

March 2.—Seeing Mr. Cottom, the scrivener,‖ I told him son Henry should come to learn to write with him.

March 3.—James Harrison . . offered to buy my old cow. I asked him £3 10s. for her, and he bid me £2 17s. 6d. I bid him take her at £3 5s., and he refused, so we bargained not.

March 4.—James Corner came and made a sore complaint of his hard circumstances, and that he was in danger to have his goods seized for £1 10s., and seemed as if he would have me to help him with it. I had it not to spare, but advised him to sell a cow to pay people with, to which he seemed averse. I writ him a letter of petition to William and John Willasay, and about noon he came again and told me that William Willasay and John would have me to write with him to John Hesmondhalgh to lend him £1 for a 3 weeks or a month. . . I told him I was not willing to give my word for it, but I would write to him, . . and promised that I would ask my people's charity for him in a month's time, and I hoped William Willasay would do the like. . . I gave 6d. to James Corner to help him in his need.

March 5.—I spent the fore part of the day in gripping the ploughed lands, that water stand not on it.

March 9.—I called at Ellen Seed's, and spent 2d. on the scrivener, and paid him 1s. for instructing son Henry a fortnight in writing. . . I got a 4th newspaper from John Greenwood, which informs me that on February 26th past, Colonel Charteris § was

* Grandson of Peter the Great, and the successor, on the throne, of the Empress Catharine, widow of Peter the Great; he reigned less than three years.

† Old style.

‡ Daughter of Ivon, elder brother of Peter the Great, and for some time joint sovereign with him. Ivon ultimately abdicated in favour of his younger brother.

‖ A writing master; the master of Hurst Green school.—(See note ††, page 54.)

§ He was called, on account of his licentious life, the "Infamous Colonel Charteris."

tried before Baron Price, at the Old Bailey, London, for a rape on the body of Ann Bond, and found guilty, and on the 28th, in the evening, he received sentence of death for it; that he offered nothing in arrest of judgment; that he is said to be worth £200,000; that his estates, goods, and chattels in London, Lancashire,* and Buckinghamshire were all seized or forfeited to the Crown; and the same paper informs me that the Pope Benedict the 13th† died at Rome, on the 21st of February new style.

March 12.—Went with my love to Richard Salisbury's, and accounted with 'em about what they had of us, and that they owed us for. . . 18 pounds of butter, 3½d. per pound, 5s. 3d.; for 5 double load of turf leading, 1s. 8d.; for 14 aukendales of potatoes, at 3½d. per aukendale, 4s. 1d.; then they paid us in silver, 6s.; in shearing, 2s. 0½d.; and when my wife lay in of daughter Katherine, the wife and Isabel helped us to milk, wash, and the rest, for which they asked 12d. per week, but we agreed, at 9d. per week, 2s. 3d.

March 16.—In the afternoon came Alice, wife of James Corner, with a new pair of shoes for my wife, and an aukendale of seed bigg.‡ I paid her 2s. 6d. for the shoes, and 6d. for the bigg. . . . Ann Seed, o' th' Little Town, came with some remains of the burying provisions,‖ of which my love gave us each a taste.

March 19.—In the evening I called at James Seed's . . and during our sitting I sold him our old cow at £3 1s. 6d, and 6d. I am to restore when they pay me, which is to be on Easter Monday.

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* He owned the Hornby Castle estate in this county, which he purchased from Lord Morley and Montengle. It descended (for the forfeiture was cancelled on the colonel being afterwards pardoned) to his daughter, who married the 5th Earl of Wemyss. Her son, the 6th Earl of Wemyss, and his son Lord Elcho, sold the estate in 1789, to John Marsden, Esq., whose will devising the estate was contested for many years in the courts of law, and was finally set aside. The cause was the famous one of "Tatham *v.* Wright."

† He was Pope from 1724 to his death in 1730. He was succeeded by Clement the Twelfth.

‡ Seed barley.

‖ It is usual in country places to make very festive preparations at a funeral.

March 20.—I got a guinea changed at cousin Throop's, and spent 6d., so came home, and in the way was bawled at by Thomas Rhodes for saying that he had said that I could never pay my rent. I said I never said so, and was angry at him, and smote him with my stick 2 or 3 times about his hat. So we talked on till at last I left him, and called at his wife to see what she had said. She said Bartholomew Eccles told her that I had said so of Thomas. But I said he had never been in my mouth nor mind, till he spoke to me, of all the time that I was at Throop's.

March 21.— . . . Sent my love to Proud Preston with butter. . . About 4 o'clock son Thomas went with my mare to meet my love and help her home from Preston. . . About 7 o'clock my love and son came, and brought herring, 7 penny-worth, Katherine new staves,* 8d.

March 23.— . . . This being the family's thanksgiving day† for the mercy of their son Nathaniel's restoration to 'em after he had been lost 48 hours on the fell. . . laid open the nature of the exercise, and prayed for a blessing, so the duty was carried on by Joseph Leeming, John Cawson, sen., Leonard Leigh, Thomas Fell, John Parker, and I concluded. . . . On my way I called at Mr. Lancaster's shop, in Waddington, and bought an ounce of tobacco, 1½d., and two studs, 1d.

March 25.—To-day Christopher Sympson called on us and bid‡ some of us to the burial of Ellen Seed.

March 26.—Sent Son Thomas . . to borrow Jane Seed pad‖ for my love to ride on to Ellen Seed's burial.

March 27.—Son Thomas being harrowing, I went

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* Stays.

† At Mr. Joseph Leeming's, at Newton-in-Bowland.

‡ Invited. Halliwell's Archaic Dictionary says "Bid, to invite. Still used in the north, especially with reference to an invitation to a funeral, which is termed a bidding. Two or four people, called 'bidders' are sent about to invite the friends, and distribute the mourning."

‖ Jane Seed's pad. A pad is, according to Walker, "an easy-paced horse." The term is often applied to a horse ridden by a lady. The omission of the apostrophe *s* is yet a Lancashire and Yorkshire vulgarism.

and gripped the lands he had harrowed, and daughter Margaret raked the potato beds we had set. . . To-night, about a 11 a clock, came Richard Rhodes to our house, and said Robert Seed being very ill desired that my wife would come and see him and give him some advice about taking physic. She got out of bed and went, and was about an hour away. So came to bed again, and we slept till morning comfortably.

March 28.—Daughter Margaret and I went to see Robert Seed, o' th' Little Town, and found him about to take physic that Dr. Highton had prescribed, and that Edward Rhodes had fetched from Preston.

March 30.—I and daughter Margaret set two half-bushels and full a half of potatoes in the Little Ley, and raked 'em ; then I sowed 4 half-bushels of oats.

March 31.—Yesterday James Seed came and paid me £5 1s. 6d. for my old cow . . . and I gave him back 6d.

April 1.—My landlord came, and I paid him £3 10s. more of my rent, which now makes what I have paid him of the rent for the year 1729 £11 5s., and there remains to pay yet £1 9s. 5d. ; and I pay him 5s. for use of £5 I have of him. He would give me a treat, which I accepted, and was going out with him, and Mr. Helm called on me, in his return out of the north, and went with us to Ellen Seed's, and we stayed together near 2 hours.

April 3.—Thomas . . helped me to delve the bed in the house garden for onions, and salletting* . . then I and my love sowed the onions, leeks, lettuce, and radish seeds, and covered 'em.

April 4.—Spent the day in helping son Thomas to delve in the garden, for carrots and parsnips and potatoes, all which we sowed.

April 5 (Lord's Day).—To-day, at the Chapel-chamber, William Fell came to me and thanked me for what I had done for him in his last sickness, and gave me a shilling to buy me what I pleased with.

April 6.—James Harrison came with his 2 nags and son Thomas, and he ploughed the stubble in

* Vegetables for a salad.

the meadow for me and got it done by the shorter side of noon, and I spent the forenoon in cutting three half bushels of potato sets. . . To-day James Harrison, after I had set him down a poor ley, a church ley, and the land cess, which all came to 9s 7¾d., he took his bill of accounts out of my hand, in order to lay the same before his landlord, Robert Parker de Raddam Laund, in a few days, so that I am at the my year end with Harrison as his bookkeeper, for which he has paid me 6d. a year.

April 7.—Spent the forenoon in helping son Thomas to carry into our barn all our great and small potatoes.

April 8.— . . Being for going to a private day of prayer at John Parker's, o' th' Lees, got ready . . and got there about 10. . . I opened the nature of the exercise, and prayed for a blessing. Then the duty was carried on by John Parker, John Cawson, jun., Joseph Leeming, and I concluded . . then came homewards, and being to visit Thomas Thompson, I rid up to Bradley Hall from Spencer's, and found both old William and Thomas, but in badly case, and I set and discoursed with 'em an hour or more, and during my stay read the 12th of Ecclesiastes, and prayed with 'em and for 'em. P.S.—This morning Thomas Harrison had my horse a gate with a load of oats to the Lum or Knowle's mill, in return for his horse that I had once thither with a load of oats, so that we are now straight in the case.

April 9.—This morning, Thomas Parkinson, o' th' Cringles* constable, and overseer of the poor for Chipping, called on me for poor gaulds, 7 books, 8 leys to a book, a farthing and a half to a ley. For the poor in 1729, 9s.; constable ley for Astley-house, 14 [leys], 5¼d.; and constable leys for 1728, 4½d., so that all he demanded of me was 2s. 6¾d. I had not pay him with, but promised to get it him as soon as it came to my hand, and asked him for Astley-house rent. He said the town† will not pay it; they took it not, nor will they pay it, and alleged

* Cringle Brooks, a farm in Goosnargh.
† The township authorities, the overseers of the poor.

that the tenants have allowance off the town,* and are 2 lusty folks, &c. Then said I, I must seize the goods on the premises, and he must make distress for me; I supposed he was the constable. He said he was, and must oblige me when I called. He went towards the quarter sessions at Preston, and I returned to delving. . . Yesterday, John Parker and John Cawson, junior, told me that Elizabeth Reid, who was Elizabeth Smithson, of Newton-in-Bowland, was dead and buried a week ago. She died of childbed. . . She was buried at Slaitburn † Church, but without any ceremony of priest or clerk, because she died excommunicate.

April 11th.—Came James Sudal, who has this spring married Alice Slater, of Whittingham, at whose sale I bought a coupe ‡ and wheels, and other odd things, to the value of £3 2s. 6d., and asked me if I would let him have the coupe and wheels again. I told him I did not think of parting with 'em, but since he and she of whom I bought 'em requested it, I would not deny 'em if they would bring me in the bill I had of 'em and quit me for all I had bought at Alice Slater's sale. He seemed loth to it at first, but in the end he consented.

April 12 (Lord's Day).—Got ready for chapel, and about 9 o'clock I set forward and went direct to James Walmsley's, where I smoked a pipe, and I got a penny pot of ale, and paid not for it, because I had no brass; but Kath. Walmsley told me that Wm. Atkinson came home from the House of Correction ‖ . . yesterday. [After service.] John Parkinson gave 3s. into my hand, and bid me put it in my pocket, and he would tell me what it concerned another time.

April 13.—Alice Wilkinson came to take the corners and waste in the wheatfield, and I offered her all at 1s. 6d. She said she would have 'em, and pay me for 'em, and be obliged to me too.

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* Parochial relief. † Slaidburn. ‡ A kind of cart.

‖ The Preston House of Correction was then in the Old Friary, near Marsh-lane, the ancient monastic building, formerly the abode of an order of Grey Friars, the site of which is partially occupied by Mr. Stevenson's ironfoundry.

April 14.—Katherine Rhodes . . told me that Giles Bleasdal had a calving cow dead the last week but one, and that he had eat her blood, and given her carcase among such poor people as would fetch it; that Robert Parkinson, a poor man that lived in Chipping, at James Dilworth old house, had fetched a quarter of her, as also the head and nombles,* that he fetched it on Friday was a se'night, and stewed some of it in the oven, and eat very greedily of it, and a considerable quantity, but the evening began to swell in the eyes, and at last in the throat, so that on Lord's Day se'night he died, and it's thought he was poisoned with it, because all that [partook] were purged through it and disordered.

April 15.—My love having been at Inglewhite, to get Joseph Beesley to dress my clock, she told me . . that there was to be a sale at the Ashes, in Goosner,† to-morrow, that it was a broken sale,‡ that there is 6 or 7 good calving cows to sell, and that my landlord thought if I came I might fit myself with a cow there; that the landlord made the sale, and gave day till Candlemas.

April 16.—In the afternoon I and my love got my mare, and rid direct to the Ashes, where was a sale of a poor woman's goods. I left my love at the Ashes gate, and went to my landlord's, and left pillion there, and bought the clogs that my love had seen in a shop there yesterday, at 5d. I paid for 'em, and came to my landlord's, and left the clogs, my boots, and mare there. So walked to the sale, and was by when the cows and young goods were sold. There were, first, two calves or stirks sold; the 1st 11s., the 2nd 13s. 6d. Then a steer was sold at 17s. 6d.; then 2 steers were sold at £1 11s. 6d. Then a black heifer was sold at £2 11s. 6d.; then another black heifer was sold at £2 12s. 6d.; then a red cow was sold at £5 7s. 6d.; then 2 other cows were sold for above £5 a piece, but how much exact I heard not. Then were 2 cows sold that had calved, and the calves with 'em, both heifer calves; the one that had her leg broke

* Entrails. † Goosnargh.
‡ The person was "broken," or insolvent.

was sold at £5 13s. 6d., and the woman that bought her sold the calf, 3 weeks old, at 13s. 4d. The other cow and calf were sold at £5 10s. 6d.; and last of all a red cow was sold at £5 2s. 6d., and a red heifer for calving sold at £3 10s. 6d. . . . The sale being over, we went to my landlord and got some food. Then I got my boots and pillion and clogs and mare and my love, and I came direct home, and got in about sunset, and found all well, and the family supped, and I prayed in my family, and my daughter Ann, in a dream, rose out of bed, went to the side of the bed, and fell to the ground, but, blessed be God, she had no harm.

April 17.—So William Eccles came and bought half a load of potatoes of me, at 3s. 6d. a load, but could not pay for 'em till Holy Thursday. Then he had some to draw of John Walmsley, our overseer, and he would pay me. So I ventured, and said he should have 'em if he would keep his word . . I spent the forenoon at home, in bottoming a bed in the west chamber and in helping son Thomas to ditch . . then I measured a load of potatoes and sent Thomas towards Clitheroe with 'em . . and I fettled things in the house till evening.

April 18.—Son Thomas came from Clitheroe and daughter Margaret from Preston, whither my love had sent her with 3 pounds of butter for Mrs. Sudall. . . She brought me 1s. for the butter; two newspapers, one of which informs me that Colonel Charteris is discharged out of Newgate, having obtained his Majesty's most gracious pardon; and she said potatoes in Preston sold at 1s. 8d. a load. P.S.—To-night my daughter Katherine had an illness of the chinckcough.*

April 19.—Got my mare and rid to Newton . . [After service.]—Joseph Leeming told me that John Harrison, of Waddington, had received a letter from London, and wanted to see me at Waddington, but he being employed daily at Wadhall,† would have me come in the afternoon. I bid him tell him I proposed to come on Tuesday.

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* Chin-cough or hooping-cough.

† Waddow-hall, in the township of Waddington, near Clitheroe.

April 20.—In the evening came old Mr. Holt, an old itinerant mendicant preacher in the Church of England, and lodged with us, he being an old neighbour to me when at my father's house.

April 21.—I sent son Thomas to the coal pit with my horse and mare, and Mr. Holt went away from our home. . . Having occasion to go to John Harrison's, of Waddington, I got ready, and walked direct over the height of Longridge to Kemple End* and down to Hodder Bridge; so being hot I called at George Bolton's, and got two penny pots of ale, and some beef and bread, and a paper of tobacco. I paid 4d., so went to Waddington. . . I received a letter that was sent to John from London, which ran thus, viz. :—

John—I have received from a charitable society of gentlemen, having applied to one of them, for Mr. Walkden, £1 15s. His name is Mr. Joseph Aldersay, to whom as soon as you have let Mr. Walkden know, he must send a receipt and letter of thanks, for the said sum, to Mr. Aldersay himself. . . . The particular account of his family and circumstances, with the name and place of his abode, is desired from the fund, from which, I believe, in a little time, he will have something more. . . . . I am, your friend to serve you, ANN RUTT.

Having read this letter, I writ a receipt to Mr. Aldersay, and a letter of thanks.

April 22.— . . Spent the forenoon, in writing an account of my family and circumstances. . . . I came unto Kemple End . . and to Tinklerfield,† where my love met me, and I went with her to Huntington Hall ‡ to see if Robert Read had any calving cows to sell. He had . . one . . . but we approved not of her. . . . We came to Alexander Fisher's, and viewed 2 cows of his that were 9 and 10 years old a piece. He asked £4 5s. for the 9 year old cow; we bid him nothing, only I told that I thought she might be worth about £3 15s.

April 23.—Wanting a rent for Astley House, of Henry Richmond, I went over thither and asked for

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* The eastern end of Longridge fell. It is broad and precipitous, and, being well wooded, is a very picturesque object in the landscape.

† On the southern slope of Longridge fell, in Dutton.

‡ A farm in the township of Dutton, on the southern slope of Longridge fell.

my rent. She said, that is, Mary Richmond said, that Thomas Parkinson, the overseer of the poor, was there on Tuesday morning, and said he would not pay the rent, and they had nothing to pay with, nor could they get anything to pay it with; that if they let their goods be seized she would leave 'em and let 'em take the children. I hearing this went on to the Cold coats, where I dined; then went to the Crag House,* where I was told by the wife that Thomas was on Wolf House fell, graving turf: I bid her to tell him to meet me to-morrow morning at Astley House, either to pay me the rent or seize the goods for me.

April 24.—Went to Astley House, and waiting for Thomas Parkinson coming, but he came not . . so I came thence to Hesketh Lane. So people came to chapel and I went in. [After service, being "Preparation Day."] Ellen Dobson signified to me her desire to sit down with us at the Lord's table [on the following Sunday], having formerly set down at Forton, with Mr. Aray. I accepted her, and she and I and my love went into James Walmsley's, and had each a pennyworth of ale.

April 25.—Went direct to the Crag House, and found Thomas Parkinson at home, I wanted him to go with me to Astley House and secure me my rent from Henry and Mary Richmond one way or other. He said he could not tell what to say to me, for he durst not seize the goods for rent of a cottage 'fore May Day. Said I, then what must I do? It may be the town may have removed them or they have removed themselves, and then where must I get my rent? He said he durst say that neither the town nor the tenant had any such purposes, or intended so to deal with me, but if they did I might fetch 'em again in five days' time, to the place to secure me. I said that would be more trouble, and perhaps the goods cannot be found. He haffled† at that, and knew not well what to say, but he said "there is a difference between you and your tenant, as to the rent; she says you would let them have it for 5s. 6d. and you

* A farm near the foot of Parlick, to the south.
† Prevaricated, or hesitated.

demand 11s." I said I never made such a bargain with her. I did say when there was stir made about their going to it by you, and they held by me and did come to it, that they had pleased me so well that I had rather let 'em have had it for half rent than have been collogued * by you, and been disappointed of a tenant. He said he knew nothing of it, but if I chose to take 5s. 6d. he would secure me that. I would not, but ere we parted I said if he would pay me 5s. 6d. and remit what I owed him for ley, 3s. 2d., it should content me for the year gone. He said he durst not. I said "There's enough on the ground to satisfy me, and 5s. 6d. I will not take;" but I would pay him the arrears of ley and get my rent at May Day as I could. He said, nay, let that be unpaid, and it will be something towards the rent . . . So came home, and went to Preston, and got a penny pot of ale at the Flying Horse, then bought a quart of wine, 1s. 6d.; a calf head, 6d.; 12 calf feet, 4½d.; a wheat loaf, 1d.; brown sugar candy, 2½d.; and bought a penny-worth of cockles, which I eat for dinner. P.S.—To-day I had thought to have paid in 4 briefs, but moneys failing me I paid 'em not.

April 28.—This afternoon son Thomas brought account that Mr. Pepper, our late exciseman, being ejected out of his said office for default, had this morning cut his own throat at his dwelling house, at Ribchester, and was dead, but my love said he was not dead; . . a surgeon from Blackburn had stopped the wound.

May 1st.—Sent son Thomas to the Crag House, to ask Thomas Parkinson to either send me Astley House rent or secure me the goods on the premises by seizure, and I went into my closet and finished the sermon I am preparing for Lord's Day next . . Being to preach at Skerton, at John Anion's, on Lord's Day, and designing to walk thither on foot . . . went direct to Thomas Storsacre's, at the Hole of Ellhill.

May 2.—Thomas Storsacre being for Lancaster, being with wheat, I took his company all the way

* Cheated. The term is applicable more especially to cheating by two or more persons in collusion.

and we there had each a pint of ale, for which we paid each 2d., . . then went direct to Skerton to John Anion's, and found him old and decayed, but in a competent degree of health.

May 3, Lord's day.—[Had service at Skerton.] . . . Went with James Bradley's family, of Baman Hall, to lodge.

May 4.—Came to Lancaster . . and called at Esther Newton's, with whom I prayed, and who told me that there was something for me that was her son Ebinezer's, but she could not give it yet, for nothing of his had yet been meddled with, and she gave me a pair of gloves. . . Alexander Williamson, Esther Newton, and Esther Bradley, all brought me a back way out of Lancaster, to the Guide* on this side Lancaster. There the two Esthers took leave of me and returned, but Alexander Williamson came with me to a house below the Windmill, that is betwixt Lancaster and Scotford,† where dwelt an old woman, a professor,‡ of his acquaintance, whom he asked me to visit. I did so, and during our stay I prayed with her and for her; then we came thence, and at Scotford we called at Whiteside's, and had one pint of ale betwixt us, and I paid for it, and Alexander came with me to Gawgarth,‖ where he took his leave. . . then came over a corner of Ellhill moor as direct as I could to Wire § and over it at a warth** . . and to Brother John Miller's.

May 5.—Brother Miller telling me of a scot he had to sell at the Fell-end house, that was a calver, I had a mind to see it. . . I approved it, and he asked me £1 15s. for it. I bid him £1 12s. 6d. He said I must lay him down £1 14s., and I should have a shilling given me back, so I bid him strike it,†† which he did. . . At the house called the

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* Guidepost.

† Now called Scotforth;—no doubt anciently the Scots' ford,—the ford passed by Scotchmen, for it is on the highway to Scotland.

‡ A professor of religion, a member of the Nonconformist Church.

‖ Galgate.

§ The river Wyre. ** A ford.

†† Strike a bargain.

Moss Gate I saw Edmund Eccles, of Hesketh End,* who I owed 6s. to for 2 years' use of £3. I paid it into his hand, and now owe him nothing but £3. . . I came home, and daughter Katherine ill of the chinkcough. . . I overtook James Harrison . . and we concluded to get John Dickenson to measure our ground we had plowed mean.

May 7.—Having orders to meet Thomas Parkinson, Chipping overseer of the poor, at Astley House, at sun rising, I left all my family in bed, and walked direct to Astley House, and waited for the overseer's coming till near 7 o'clock, but he came not. So I being both cold and hungry, I would wait no longer, but came to James Walmsley's, and got my breakfast, and after while I smoked a pipe, and before it was done came Thomas Parkinson and Mary Richmond.† Thomas would pay me 5s. 6d. of the rent, for more he would pay none. I said I would not take 5s. 6d., but would have the goods seized before. He said, with all his heart; he would go with me when I pleased to seize. I said he should go; for my rent I would have. He said I must prove my bargain. . . I said I could swear it. He said that would not serve me. I said that I can bring Mary to swear it, so I asked Mary if she could say that she ever made a bargain with me. She said, No.

May 8.— . . Brother Miller selling his hair to John Shankland for 5s.‡ and a cravat, I stayed while the hair was cut off, and bought a cravat of John Wilson for a shilling.

May 9.—Son Thomas went to Preston with 6 pounds of butter to Mrs. Sudal, and my love went to Clitheroe with 3 bushels and a half of potatoes

* Hesketh End is a curious Elizabethan house, not far from Hesketh Lane Chapel. It has on the outside numerous inscriptions in Latin, one of which is a little history of the world, being the dates and other particulars of the invasion of the Romans, the incursions of the Danes, the Norman Conquest, and the Reformation. It also bears the inscription:—"RICHARD AISTUN MADE THIS HOUSE ANNO DOMINI 1582. O LORD SAVE IT AND BE KIND." Baines (vol. iii. p. 365) incorrectly gives the date of the erection as 1501.

† See page 113

‡ There was then a great trade in human hair for the manufacture of wigs and perukes. Richard (afterwards Sir Richard) Arkwright used to travel about the country buying hair.

to sell, and I barbered me, and about a 11 a clock I went towards Chipping. . . . So I went to Thomas Sudal's and demanded Ellen Seed's bargain of a pig; he seemed loth to let me have it, but at last he and I went and I pitched on one, and I marked it by cutting off the point of its ear.

May 11.—Spent the day at home in repairing our swine cote side, and painting it. . . . Son Thomas fetched our pig from Thomas Sudal's, of Chipping, and paid 8s. 6d. for it, and they gave him 2d. again. . . . To day I was told that Mr. Popper, who lately cut his throat at Ribchester, was dead.

May 15.—Thomas, my son, went for the horses to go to the coal pit, and found the horse fast in a bog in the bottom of our clough, a strait place, a steep hill on one hand, and the fence and the other, and the bog behind and before. We sent one for help, but got none, save Richard Salisbury and Robert Rhodes. We raised him, but the bog was so soft that he went down again.* We got straw and then raised him, and he stood on it, and we pulled down the fence into John Eccles field, and put him over it. So brought him home, and son Thomas saddled him and the mare and went to the coalpit.

May 16.—Sent son Thomas to Proud Preston with 4 lb. of butter for Mrs. Sudal, and by him I sent Mr. Stanhope, clerk of Preston, 4 briefs with the moneys collected thereon, viz., 4s. 7d., and John Greenwood, o' th' Flying Horse, I sent for 12 newspapers received since the 1st of January, last past, viz., 1s. 0d., and to-day's newspaper will be the 2nd to pay for. . . . I read the newspaper, and find not much in it remarkable as to the public, but that the parliament broke up on Thursday last, and that there's still preparations for war carried on both in Spain and Germany. As to private news, what is most notable is an account from Coventry that the spouse of the Reverend Mr. Rider, vicar of Nun-

* At the time the diarist lived some thousands of acres of land, which now, through being drained and cultivated, produce fruitful crops, were bog and moss. Such an incident as is here narrated would, doubtless, then not be uncommon on low-lying portions of Lancashire farms.

eaton, near Coventry, was safely delivered of 4 children, were all living, and that about 10 months ago she had 3 children at a birth, who are all living.

[There are no further perfect entries.]

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